SPRING 2018 EXPLORATIONS IN THE CORE, SEMINARS, & SPECIAL TOPICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ACC-290-201 Advanced Special Topics in Accounting: Forensic Accounting
This class is an introductory to Forensic Accounting and Fraud Examination. Students will learn about various types of fraud schemes, how to detect fraud in businesses, techniques for investigating fraud, and skills needed to help resolve fraud. During the class, students will develop problem solving techniques, writing techniques, and presentation skills that will be useful throughout their careers.

ART-290-001 Special Topics in Studio Art: Introduction to Computer Animation
This course introduces students to the many areas and aspects of computer animation. Students will be introduced to basic 3D tools and techniques of modeling, surfacing, lighting, rendering, rigging, animating and composing various elements. Students are introduced to the group production environment. This course emphasizes the wide range of talents and disciplines within 3D computer animation. Prerequisite: any one of the following courses: ART-101 Introduction to Drawing; ART-102 Introduction to Painting; ART-103 Introduction to Figure Sculpture; ART-105 Video Production; ART-106 Introduction to Figure Drawing; ART-109 Introduction to Photography; ART-115 Introduction to Digital Photography. This course includes a non-refundable lab/material fee of $80.

ART-290-002 Special Topics in Studio Art: Cinematography
Cinematography will build on students’ prior experience in beginning video and further refine their filmmaking sensibilities. Through collaborative group projects and individual projects, students will be expected to demonstrate proper use of equipment and show continued progress in the creation of visual narratives. Students will gain both hands-on experience and a deeper artistic understanding of the use of image as narrative devices in both fiction and documentary films. Prerequisite: ART-105. This course includes a non-refundable lab/material fee of $200.

ART-290-003 Special Topics in Studio Art: Introduction to Graphic Design
This studio art course introduces students to the field and practice of graphic design through exploring the development and creation of visual responses to communication problems. The course will cover basic systems, tools, and technology used in graphic design, including graphic representation, composition of graphic and text elements, conceptual techniques, and relevant software. The course will use both computers and traditional media to create print and digital graphics. Prerequisite: Any one of the following courses: ART 101; ART 102; ART 104; ART 109; or ART 115. This course includes a non-refundable lab/material fee of $80.

BIO-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Biology: Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)
What are genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and why are they (still) so hotly debated? In this seminar-style course, we will learn the molecular biology and biotechnology behind the generation of GMOs. We will examine several examples of GMOs, including genetically modified crops, food for human consumption, and GM insects to learn the molecular genetic techniques associated with the production of GMOs. In addition, we will discuss the ecological, environmental, ethical, economic, and political issues associated with production and distribution of GMOs. Reading from primary literature, book chapters, and opinion and commentary pieces will guide our discussions. Prerequisite: C- or better in BIO-201

BUS-490-201 Advanced Special Topics in Business Administration: Marketing Strategy
Marketing Strategy is intended to be an experience-based course that will give students a more in-depth knowledge of the marketing function by utilizing a combination of lecture/discussion, business case analysis and a hands-on semester-long project for an actual client (either for profit or non-profit). Prerequisite: BUS-350.

BUS-490-202 Advanced Special Topics in Business Administration: Project, Infrastructure, & Energy Finance
This course explores the fundamental of launching new ventures and managing small businesses. Course work includes case study evaluation, discussion of current topics in entrepreneurship, development of ideas for new ventures, and development of the components of a business model, including a new venture “pitch”. The course will combine theory with practice, encouraging students to apply principles, concepts and frameworks to real world situations.

COR-102-090 Explorations in the Core: Narratives of the Self II: In or Out? Seeing Through Others’ Experiences in Literature
This explorations course focuses on the methods of resurrecting marginalized voices from a historical context and examining the relationship between seeing/understanding another’s perspective and shifting dominant cultural discourses. We will analyze how these voices and selves are expressed in their literary worlds and how the representations constructed by these authors relate to their cultural contexts.

www.oglethorpe.edu (keyword: special topics) For the most updated list of class offerings, www.oglethorpe.edu (keyword: OASIS). Page 1
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**SPRING 2018 EXPLORATIONS IN THE CORE, SEMINARS, & SPECIAL TOPICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**COR-102-091 Explorations in the Core: Narratives of the Self II: Narratives of Immigration**
This section of Explorations considers modern narratives of the self through the lens of immigration. What are the effects of immigration on identity? How does the presence of immigrants inform the identity of member of the adopted community? In what sense is difference a necessary element of a functional society?

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**COR-102-093 Explorations in the Core: Narratives of the Self II: In or Out? Seeing Through Others’ Experiences in Literature**
This explorations course focuses on the methods of resurrecting marginalized voices from a historical context and examining the relationship between seeing/understanding another’s perspective and shifting dominant cultural discourses. We will analyze how these voices and selves are expressed in their literary worlds and how the representations constructed by these authors relate to their cultural contexts.

**COR-102-190 Explorations in the Core: Narratives of the Self II: Writing in/at the Margins**
The primary goal of this course is to develop an awareness of narratives as gendered – that is, as shaped by relations of sex and gender, as well as by race, class, sexual orientation, and other categories of difference – and the effects of this on individuals and society. This course is designed to encourage you to think critically about the narratives you consume while simultaneously recognizing the ideological structures that often shape not only our own interpretations of narratives, but also the way we create our own narratives, and, ultimately, our own identities.

For as long as philosophers have written about human 'truth' and 'justice', others have used fictional or mythical depictions of animals in ways that exemplify or ridicule these ideas. This section dialogues foundational modern philosophical writings on human nature and the social order with stories addressing the same issues through depictions of 'animal' nature and the 'animal' social order. Issues raised in the works of Rousseau, Smith, Marx, Weber, and others will be examined in conjunction with such texts as those discussing ‘animal’ nature in Aesop's Fables, self-interest in in a ‘Grumbling Hive', ranks in a Japanese ‘Animal Court', egalitarianism in an 'Animal Farm', enchantment (as opposed to disenchantment) in Native American Indian animal myths.

**COR-302-090 Explorations in the Core: Historical Perspectives on the Social Order II: Rights and Reconciliation**
This Core Explorations focuses on a paradox: modern concepts like the human rights, citizenship, and progress emerged alongside New World slavery and the colonization of both North America and Africa. We will explore the historical foundations of this contradiction and ask how modern and contemporary societies (in India, South Africa, and the United States) have attempted to redress historical injustice either by using that very same discourse or be seeking alternatives or amendments to it.

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**CRS-290-001 Special Topics in Communications and Rhetoric Studies: Introduction to Communications Research**
The primary goal of this course is to develop an understanding of the different communication research techniques used by communication professionals – what they are, how they are used, what they mean – as well as the major theoretical concepts of the discipline. The course is designed to provide students with the critical skills needed to become more informed and effective researchers and consumers. Students will conduct group and individual research projects and assignments, as well as prepare a literature review using APA style/formatting. In these assignments, students will demonstrate an understanding of professional ethical principles; think critically, creatively and independently; conduct research and evaluate information by appropriate methods; write correctly and clearly in appropriate forms and styles; critically evaluate their own work and that of others; and apply basic numerical and statistical concepts.
CRS-290-002 Special Topics in Communications and Rhetoric Studies: Social Media Strategy and Analytics
In this course we will learn the science behind social sharing, and the technical aspects of how to use & analyze social media. Using real campaigns as an example, this course will help you understand how to be successful on social media whether branding yourself or an organization. Using social media analytics, we will examine what works and what doesn’t, and how to set goals and create strategy to meet these goals. Prerequisite: CRS-120 or permission of the instructor.

CRS-290-003 Special Topics in Communications and Rhetoric Studies: Multimedia Journalism
In this class, students will report, write, and edit a variety of journalistic story types that are appropriate for delivery in multiple platforms. Students will create multi-media content including online stories, video content, blogs, social media and podcasts. Journalistic integrity and professional and ethical standards of journalism will be stressed. Prerequisite: CRS-240 or permission of the instructor.

CRS-290-201 Special Topics in Communications and Rhetoric Studies: Social Media Campaigns
In this class, students will analyze the significance of social media and content marketing, examining their role in how brands and individuals use them to communicate with their intended audiences. We will begin the class by exploring communication theory, the history of the medium and then look at cases of success and failures using social media. Students will get hands-on experience planning and executing social media and content marketing strategies.

CRS-490-201 Advanced Special Topics in Communications and Rhetoric Studies: Rhetoric Theory of Emotion & Affect
This advanced seminar will explore in depth the rhetorical tradition of pathos, the appeal to emotion in civic discourse originally delineated by Aristotle. The primary text of this course investigates the history of emotion from Aristotle’s Rhetoric to modern brain science. We will study how emotions are bound up in stories of justice and injustice, invoking both fear and contempt as well as empathy and compassion, for particular motives and agendas. This investigation into the cultural politics of emotion also considers how our sense of belonging, solidarity, and activism are being performed differently in environments of new media. Though the primary focus is on communication and rhetoric, the course reaches out to other disciplines, including politics, sociology, history, philosophy, and neuroscience. Prerequisite: CRS-101 or permission of the instructor.

CRS-490-202 Advanced Special Topics in Communications and Rhetoric Studies: Feminist Media Studies
The primary goal of this course is to introduce students to feminist media studies as a methodological approach to studying gender in media and culture. The course will examine how popular culture provides a means for understanding social negotiation, politics and identity construction that people enact in everyday activities with special focus on the role of gender. Students will examine representations of gender in film and media from a variety of analytical perspectives as a way to understand social relations and cultural practices. Prerequisite: CRS-120 or permission of the instructor. CROSS LISTED WITH WGS-490-201.

CSC-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Computer Science: Computer Organization
An introduction to the fundamentals of hardware technologies, assembly language, machine code, computer arithmetic, pipelining, memory hierarchies and input/output. Prerequisite: CSC-201 or permission of the instructor.

ENG-340-001 Advanced Topics in Literary and Cultural Studies: Transatlantic Romanticism
Our main goal in this course will be to attempt to piece together and analyze the networks of exchange that connected literary cultures of Britain, America, and Canada of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. One could easily be forgiven for thinking these cultures would have little to do with each other during this time: America had only recently won a bruising war for independence against England; the English were, by the end of the 1780s, concerned almost exclusively with responding to the even more explosive and potentially disruptive revolutionary fervor from their close neighbors in France; and Canada was so wild and underdeveloped that to live there was, in the words of one writer, akin to “Roughing it in the Bush.” Despite these significant geographic and cultural barriers, major authors from these countries were reading each other, (occasionally) visiting each other, and often competing with each other for a nascent, internationally attuned reading public. Thus, we’ll attempt not only to understand authors on their own, but also in a Transatlantic context that lends additional significance and meaning to their works. In addition to literary texts, we’ll read a good amount of the most recent scholarship in this exciting field of research. Assignments will include regular response papers, presentations, and longer research papers. Prerequisite: ENG-210.

ENG-341-001 Advanced Topics in Genre Studies: Modern Novel
This course asks what it is to be modern as well as what it means for the novel as a genre to be modern. Through a survey of literary works from England, France, Germany, and Ireland, this course explores questions of how dramatic changes in technological and mass production altered how the world was seen and, in turn, how a new aesthetic of the modern world was formed. Our main goal in this course will be to attempt to piece together and analyze the networks of exchange that connected literary cultures of Britain, America, and Canada of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. One could easily be forgiven for thinking these cultures would have little to do with each other during this time: America had only recently won a bruising war for independence against England; the English were, by the end of the 1780s, concerned almost exclusively with responding to the even more explosive and potentially disruptive revolutionary fervor from their close neighbors in France; and Canada was so wild and underdeveloped that to live there was, in the words of one writer, akin to “Roughing it in the Bush.” Despite these significant geographic and cultural barriers, major authors from these countries were reading each other, (occasionally) visiting each other, and often competing with each other for a nascent, internationally attuned reading public. Thus, we’ll attempt not only to understand authors on their own, but also in a Transatlantic context that lends additional significance and meaning to their works. In addition to literary texts, we’ll read a good amount of the most recent scholarship in this exciting field of research. Assignments will include regular response papers, presentations, and longer research papers. Prerequisite: ENG-210.
created. Our texts will also take up issues of gender, sexual relations, marriage, wht it is to know, or now to know (or what it is to know you do not know), the issue of character presentation (do all characters have an inner life?), and a relation to one’s past – or to one's culture’s past, and with that to history. Prerequisite: ENG-210.

ENG-341-002 Advanced Topics in Genre Studies: Poetry of Love & Heartbreak
Love stinks. In this course, we’ll read poetry – from the 14th century through the 21st century – that represents the particular difficulties of being in love and suffering heartbreak. We’ll read about obsession, despair, unrequited love, and unspeakable desire. Poets dwell on the loss of a beloved friend or lover, examine the intersection of radical politics and love, and think a LOT about God (as a source of loving inspiration, a cause of shame, or a problematic force whose omnipotent goodness cannot be easily reconciled with the pains of love and heartbreak). Secondary readings will help to provide historical background and philosophical clarity to our reading and subsequent discussions. At least one day will be devoted to poems suggested and curated by students. In addition to regular response papers, longer formal papers, and presentations, a final project asks students to assemble and write a critical introduction to an anthology of love poems on a topic of their choosing. Prerequisite: ENG-210.

FRE-405-001 19th Century French Realist Novel
This course studies the 19th century French realist novel by concentrating on three “giants” of the tradition. The course includes Balzac’s Père Goriot, Flaubert’s Education Sentimentale and Zola’s Germinal. The study of one novel of each of these writers, in complete or excerpted form, gives an overview of the major literary moments in the century following the French Revolution. The principal characters in each novel confront the particular challenges of each historical and social moment in 19th century France. The course thus allows students to obtain a complex notion of realism in a historical context along with greatly enhanced vocabulary and language skills for those taking the course in French. The course is also taught in English during the spring semester 2018 with no prerequisite.

HIS-290-001 Special Topics in History: Environmental History
Environmental History is the study of the changing relationships between humans and the vast non-human world. In this course, students will learn how natural phenomena and non-human creatures have shaped human history and how humans have, in turn, transformed their environments. Students will also explore how people have continually remade the boundary between themselves and the ‘natural’ world, from campaigns to exterminate certain species to attempts to preserve ‘wildernesses’. Through thematic units, students will learn key concepts in environmental history and will consider how the path to the present looks different when humans and non-humans are treated as co-actors in history.

INT-201-201 Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies: Science, Technology, and the Future of Mankind
This course will explore, analyze and provide scenarios for the future of humankind, examining the role of genetic manipulation, nuclear weaponry, new sources of energy, robotics, Artificial Intelligence, nanotechnology, space travel, and the internet. In addition, students will research, discuss and present ideas in class dealing with sustainability, solutions to food hunger and world overpopulation, and innovative and nascent technologies to benefit humankind.

MAT-290-101 Special Topics in Mathematics: MCM Prep (1 credit hour)
This is a seminar intended to prepare the student for the Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM), an annual team competition sponsored by the Consortium for Mathematics and its Applications (COMAP). Students will take turns in leading the discussion of problems and solutions from previous contests. This seminar will end right before the start of the competition on February 8, 2018. Prerequisite: MAT-236 or permission of instructor.

POL-290-001 Special Topics in Politics: The First Amendment
On campus and off, there has in recent years been a lot of reflection, conversation, and argument about what some have called our “first freedoms,” those of speech, press, and religion. Scholars and ordinary citizens argue, for example, that so-called “hate speech” is not or should not be permitted or protected by the First Amendment. Some also argue that religious freedom is often just a cover for irrational animus and bigotry. Such arguments do not comprise the whole of our contemporary discourse surrounding these subjects; they are only illustrations.
The point of this class is not, in the first instance, to adjudicate these claims, but rather to put students in a much stronger position to evaluate them for themselves. We will attempt to do this, first, by examining the philosophical and historical roots of the freedoms enshrined in the First Amendment. Then we will study (and debate) many of the most important Supreme Court cases that deal with these questions.

POL-290-003 Special Topics in Politics: Movements Don’t Matter
In this course we will examine a variety of economic, political, social, and cultural movements. In particular, we will assess the leadership, collective action, scope, and impact of these movements on the grassroots and international level.
POL-290-101 Special Topics in Politics: Conversations in Criminal Justice
This seminar-style course explores the design of the U.S. criminal justice process, its evolution, and its strengths and flaws. Through a series of dialogues with key players in the criminal justice system – judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, immigration attorneys, law enforcement, and members of the Department of Corrections – students are encouraged to consider the challenges of the current system with an eye toward criminal justice reform.

POL-490-001 Special Topics in Politics: GOD vs Culture
This course will examine the political, social, and cultural phenomena God “consciousness” in America. In particular, we will examine the ways in which politicians, leaders, entertainers, and activists invoke as well as silence their God “consciousness” for political, economic, and social status in culture. Some of the individuals we will examine include Chance The Rapper, Katie Perry, and President Donald Trump.

PSY-290-101 Special Topics in Psychology: Forensic Psychology
This course will review the application of clinical and abnormal psychology to criminal cases. Students will learn the many roles of forensic psychologists, gain an appreciation for the benefits and limitation of forensic psychology expert testimony, and have an opportunity to practice applying mental health concepts to forensic cases. Students will also be introduced to the research on controversial forensic techniques, such as the use of lie-detectors, handwriting analyses, and criminal profiling. In addition, we will investigate the use of mental health defenses in high profile cases, including the use of unusual defenses (e.g., Battered Spouse Syndrome, Dissociative Disorder). This class is different from, and does not overlap with, the department’s course “Psychology and Law.” Like the law class, this one is particularly relevant for those considering a career at the intersection of clinical psychology and the legal system. This class does not fulfill a specific area requirement for the B.S. Psychology Degree, but can serve as an elective for either the B.S. or BALS degrees. Prerequisite: PSY-101 or permission of instructor.

PSY-290-130 Special Topics in Psychology: Evidence-Based Parenting HYBRID COURSE
This course will review research on effective parenting, with a focus on teaching students the empirically-validated approaches for handling a number of parenting milestones and dilemmas (e.g., food training, establishing bedtimes and avoiding sleep problems, potty-training, discipline, fostering positive self-efficacy/self-esteem, creating resilient children). No prerequisite. This class can serve as a general psychology elective for either the B.S. or BALS degrees in psychology. It does not fulfill a specific area requirement for the B.S. psychology degree. NOTE: This class is delivered in a HYBRID format: This class will incorporate in-class meetings on some evening with distance learning activities on other evenings (i.e. this class will not meet in person every night).

SOC-290-001 Special Topics in Sociology: Globalization and Global Social Change
In this course we cover the sociological approaches to understanding the nature, causes, and effects of what is known as “globalization.” We will look at such diverse issues as the production of commodities through global supply chains, development of global cultural ideas such as human rights, and how globalization affects our sense of self and identity. Students will leave with a better understanding of just what we mean when talk about our social world “globalizing”, and the ways in which their own lives are changing in a global era. Prerequisite: SOC-101.

SOC-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Sociology: Sexuality: Breaking Binaries
In this course, we will learn that sexuality and gender are socially constructed with meanings that vary historically and across cultures. We will contemplate how we categorize and deconstruct many taken-for-granted assumptions. Utilizing an intersectional approach that situates sexuality and gender as perpetually interconnected with other social markers – like race, class, age, ability, etc. – we will analyze sexuality and gender within social institutions. CROSS LISTED WITH WGS-490-001.

SPN-290-001 Special Topics in Hispanic Languages, Literatures, & Cultures: Hispanic Culture Through Cuisine
This course uses approaches from the emergent field of “food studies” in order to probe Spanish-speaking cultures through the themes of food, diet, and consumption traditions as expressed in literatures, readings, and films from Spain to Latin America. Prerequisite: None, though basic Spanish skills are useful. This course cannot be used to satisfy any foreign language requirement.

THE-290-001 Special Topics in Theatre: Scenic Painting (2 credit hours)
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This course will explore the techniques and processes used in scenic painting. Students will learn the common tools, materials, and painting techniques necessary for theatrical productions. Students will explore and practice the basic painting skills and techniques used to create scenery at the collegiate and professional levels. Students will gain a practical understanding of common terminology and tools of theatrical scene painting. They will develop speed and accuracy in the replication of textures and images for scenery, and they will gain an understanding of the way theatrical light effects color and objects. This is a hands-on course and much of the work will be done in class and in scene shop lab hours.

WGS-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Women’s and Gender Studies: Sexuality: Breaking Binaries
In this course, we will learn that sexuality and gender are socially constructed with meanings that vary historically and across cultures. We will contemplate how we categorize and deconstruct many taken-for-granted assumptions. Utilizing an intersectional approach that situates sexuality and gender as perpetually interconnected with other social markers – like race, class, age, ability, etc. – we will analyze sexuality and gender within social institutions. CROSS LISTED WITH SOC-490-001.

WGS-490-201 Advanced Special Topics in Women’s and Gender Studies: Feminist Media Studies
The primary goal of this course is to introduce students to feminist media studies as a methodological approach to studying gender in media and culture. The course will examine how popular culture provides a means for understanding social negotiation, politics and identity construction that people enact in everyday activities with special focus on the role of gender. Students will examine representations of gender in film and media from a variety of analytical perspectives as a way to understand social relations and cultural practices. CROSS LISTED WITH CRS-490-202.

WRI-290-001 Special Topics in Writing: Writing in the South
What does it mean to experience the American South? To be from here? To leave here? In this class, we will read, watch, and listen to the work of well-known and lesser-known Southern writers in order to investigate a variety of answers to these questions. Students will be expected to explore, in writing, their own ideas and experiences of the American South. Prerequisites: COR-101 and COR-102.