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ENGLISH

ENGL 264-Y01: The Bible as Literature

Distance learning

A. Duran

The Bible contains some of the weirdest and most wonderful literature you will ever read, and there is certainly no book that has had a greater influence on English and American literature, from *Beowulf* to Toni Morrison. This course asks the questions “why read the Bible in a literary way?” and “how does reading the Bible literarily expand our understanding of the Bible?” We will answer these questions primarily through reading and discussing key selections of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and Christian Bible/New Testament, using our textbook as a main guide, and exploring the biblical collections at the campus Archives and Special Collections. Our attention to literary matters of inspiration, genre, theme, structure, plot, protagonists, characters and their motivations, allusions, moral meaning, and contemporary relevance will enable us to agree or disagree – or at least lay the ground-work for doing so – with biblical and literary critic and reader Northrup Frye that the Bible is “the great code of Western Literature.”

LANGUAGES & CULTURES

HEBR 101: Modern Hebrew Level I

MWF 9:30

A. Kantor

Introduction to Modern Hebrew: The writing and sound systems, and systematic presentations of basic structures. All language skills – reading, writing, speaking, and comprehension – are emphasized. No previous knowledge of Hebrew required.

HEBR 201: Modern Hebrew Level III

MWF 10:30

A. Kantor

Extensive practice in reading, speaking, and writing Hebrew, based on a variety of subjects from daily life and literature. Continued study of grammar and reading in the modern language. Prerequisite: HEBR 102 or equivalent.

HEBR 121: Biblical Hebrew Level I

TTh 9:00 – 10:15

S. Robertson

The first semester of biblical Hebrew will seek to master the basic elements of the language, including alphabet, vocabulary, and grammar. No previous knowledge of Hebrew required.

HEBR 221: Biblical Hebrew Level III

TTh 10:30 – 11:45

S. Robertson

The third semester of biblical Hebrew focuses on reading and translation of extended passages from the Pentateuch and the use of textual criticism. Prerequisite: HEBR 122 or equivalent.

HISTORY

HIST 103: Introduction to the Medieval World

MWF 12:30

M. Zook

This course is a survey of medieval history in Europe from the fall of the Roman Empire to the birth of the Renaissance. We explore political, religious, and social changes as well as economic, technological, and cultural developments, seeking to understand the complexity of the medieval past, including an awareness of the experiences of peasants, townsfolk, students, the religious, knights and nobles. Topics include: the Birth of Christianity and decline of the Roman Empire; Barbarian nations; the Feudal World and Crusades; Chivalry, Medieval Warfare, and the Arthurian legend; Cities, Education and Daily Life; the Church, Heresy & Witchcraft; and The Black Death.

HIST 338: History of Human Rights

MWF 9:30

R. Klein-Pejšová

This course explores human rights' genealogy and uneven historical evolution from the European Enlightenment through the late twentieth century human rights revolution and experience of globalization. It examines Atlantic Revolutionary era articulations of "rights of man" and "human rights," the interwar institutionalization of rights, the post-WWII shift from minority to individual human rights, the human rights revolution of the late 1970s, and the relationship between globalization and human rights using a variety of primary and secondary sources.

HIST 347: American Religious History

MWF 1:30

D. Fleetham

Religion is at the center of the history of the United States. It has influenced both the big and the small in American life. This course examines the history of religion in the United States from the colonial period to the present. It traces the evolution of religious life in America, and religion's influence on American politics, society, and culture.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

FVS 491: Jewish Cinema (meets with IDIS 491 and LC 490)

MF 12:30-1:20, W 12:30-2:50

A. Kantor

While the concept of Jewish cinema can be interpreted and defined in many ways, for the purposes of this course, it broadly encompasses cinematic works that deal with issues directly related to Jews and Judaism. The primary objective of the course will be to provide the students with an understanding of the great breadth of Jewish cinema, which cannot be reduced to any one category, genre, or style. Films shown over the course of the semester will represent a cross-section of cultural and socio-historical contexts; some films will address the far-reaching ramifications of anti-Semitism, past and present, while others will highlight different facets of, and perspectives on, Jewish culture and its traditions. The course will be structured chronologically with the intent of surveying the history of international films that address Jewish identity in various ways and in a number of times and places. No prerequisites are required.

JEWISH STUDIES

JWST 590: Directed Readings in Jewish Studies

Time and instructor to be arranged

A reading course in aspects of Judaica directed by the instructor in whose particular field of specialization the content of the reading falls. Permission of Instructor required.

PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 206: Philosophy of Religion

TTh 12:00-1:15

P. Draper

The goal of this course is to introduce students to philosophical inquiry about the nature and existence of God. The course has two parts. In the first part, an attempt is made to articulate the Western monotheistic idea of God. Topics include the issue of whether or not the idea of God is identical to the idea of a perfect being and, if so, what does that imply about God's attributes. In the second, evidence both for and against the existence of God is analyzed and evaluated. Topics include the issue of whether or not the order in the universe is evidence for God's existence and whether or not the suffering we observe is evidence against God's existence. Students of all religious and non-religious viewpoints are welcome in this course and will be treated with respect.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

REL 200: Introduction to the Study of Religion

TTh 4:30 – 5:45

S. Robertson

This course will introduce students to the academic study of religion through an exploration of various methodologies available for a critical, reflective investigation of the study of religion.

REL 231: Religions of the West

MWF 11:30 (meets with PHIL 231)

T. Ryba

This course offers an interdisciplinary introduction to the three Abrahamic monotheistic religions of the West: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. We will examine the diversity of practices and belief systems within these religions and address debates within and between communities as well as contemporary concerns. The philosophical and religious contexts of each tradition will be considered by examining its history, primary texts, key teachings, and cultural expressions.

SOCIOLOGY

SOC 310-5: Racial & Ethnic Diversity

TTh 3:00-4:15

J. Beaman

This course is a sociological examination and analysis of the presence and significance of race and ethnicity in our society. The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation and critical framework for assessing the origins and manifestations of race and ethnicity. Race and ethnicity have historically been one basis for differentiation and stratification in the United States and other societies, and this persists today. In this course, we will examine the emergence of race and ethnicity as concepts, and how they shape our everyday lives. We will be guided by the following questions: Why do we study race and ethnicity? How and why are they relevant in our society? How do we experience race and ethnicity, and how has this changed over time? Topics include multiculturalism and diversity; media representations; racism and discrimination; colorism; racial hierarchies; immigration; and different domains of racial inequality.

SOC 310-7: Racial & Ethnic Diversity

MWF 11:30

M. Steinhour

Examines racial and ethnic pluralism in America: ways groups have entered our society; their social and cultural characteristics; and their relationships with other groups. Groups include the English, Germans, Irish, Jews, Chinese, Japanese, Blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans.

SOC 310-9: Racial & Ethnic Diversity

MWF 12:30

J. Cox

Examines racial and ethnic pluralism in America: ways groups have entered our society; their social and cultural characteristics; and their relationships with other groups. Groups include the English, Germans, Irish, Jews, Chinese, Japanese, Blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans.

SOC 310-10: Racial & Ethnic Diversity

MWF 1:30

W. Dukes

Examines racial and ethnic pluralism in America: ways groups have entered our society; their social and cultural characteristics; and their relationships with other groups. Groups include the English, Germans, Irish, Jews, Chinese, Japanese, Blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans.

SOC 310-11: Racial & Ethnic Diversity

TTh 12:00-1:15

J. Beaman

This course is a sociological examination and analysis of the presence and significance of race and ethnicity in our society. The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation and critical framework for assessing the origins and manifestations of race and ethnicity. Race and ethnicity have historically been one basis for differentiation and stratification in the United States and other societies, and this persists today. In this course, we will examine the emergence of race and ethnicity as concepts, and how they shape our everyday lives. We will be guided by the following questions: Why do we study race and ethnicity? How and why are they relevant in our society? How do we experience race and ethnicity, and how has this changed over time? Topics include multiculturalism and diversity; media representations; racism and discrimination; colorism; racial hierarchies; immigration; and different domains of racial inequality.

SOCIOLOGY

SOC 310-12: Racial & Ethnic Diversity

Distance learning

W. Dukes

Examines racial and ethnic pluralism in America: ways groups have entered our society; their social and cultural characteristics; and their relationships with other groups. Groups include the English, Germans, Irish, Jews, Chinese, Japanese, Blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans.

SOC 310-Y01: Racial & Ethnic Diversity

Distance learning

W. Dukes

Examines racial and ethnic pluralism in America: ways groups have entered our society; their social and cultural characteristics; and their relationships with other groups. Groups include the English, Germans, Irish, Jews, Chinese, Japanese, Blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans.

SOC 356: Hate and Violence

Th 6:00-8:50 p.m.

R. Mate

Examines the causes of and solutions to hatred and violence. Concepts such as anti-Semitism, discrimination, hate crimes, prejudice, racism, bullying, homosexual prejudice, terrorism and other topics will be addressed. This course uses experiential activities, videos, guest speakers and classroom discussion.

SOC 367: Religion in America

TTh 12:00-1:15

D. Olson

Examines the social dimensions of religion in American life; religion in American culture; social profiles of America's religious groups, trends in individual religious commitment; and religion's impact on American life.