

HONORS COLLOQUIA SPRING 2007

*Some schools and departments have not yet identified courses for major credit.
Please check back for the most up-to-date information.*

Special note:

Anthropology and American Studies Honors students:

Certain courses may count for credit in Anthropology and American Studies. Determination is made on a case-by-case basis. Students should see their academic advisor for details.

KOGOD Honors students: *Please see your academic advisor to receive approval for applying the Kogod courses to your major.*

SIS Honors students: *You are encouraged to speak with SIS academic advisors to determine whether a colloquium might be considered for another functional area or regional field.*

HNRS 300-001H PERSONS AND SELVES

Rom Harre

TF 9:55-11:10 a.m.

One of the most important concepts in the humanities and the social sciences is that of a person. How do we recognize persons? What is it like to be a person? How is consciousness related to personhood? How and why are persons morally protected? Tied in with this are deep psychological questions around the related idea of 'the self.' Is it a kind of thing? Must there be only one self per person? And so on. This course will tackle a range of intriguing and important issues in philosophy, psychology and even psychiatry.

MAJOR CREDIT: Philosophy and Religion; Psychology; SETH (Health Promotion, Education)

HNRS 300-002H ADVANCED WRITING: BEYOND FUNDAMENTALS

Glenn Moomau

MTh 9:55-11:10 a.m.

Writing may be the most difficult human endeavor. Though all of us have been writing (some in several languages) since our ages stood in the low single digits, none of the honest among us believes that she or he has a perfect grasp of this craft. This course will demystify the act of writing by looking at the process professional writers use to generate and revise their work. We will also build a toolbox of stylistic techniques gained from our readings and class discussion. Finally, we will explore the current issue of information literacy. All of this knowledge in process, style, and information literacy will be practiced in the essay assignments, and all of it can be built upon and used for your work both here and after you graduate. Our class time will be divided between discussions of outside readings and group critiques of each student's essay drafts.

MAJOR CREDIT: Literature

**HNRS 300-003H BLOWIN' IN THE WIND: SOCIETY, CULTURE,
AND POLITICS IN 1960S AMERICA**

Peter Kuznick

M 8:10-10:40 p.m.

This honors colloquium will examine the political, social, and cultural changes that transformed the United States during the 1960s, one of the most turbulent and colorful decades in American history. After assessing the seeming quiescence of the 1950s, the course will explore several topics including the civil rights movement and black liberation struggles, the rise of second wave feminism, the expansion of the welfare state, the war in Vietnam, the emergence of the New Left, student activism and the changing nature of academia, the rise of neo-conservatism, the Cuban Missile Crisis and the expanding arms race, the sexual revolution, the evolving Cold War, the counterculture, and the Kennedy, Johnson, and early Nixon presidencies. In addition to books by scholars, course materials will include memoirs, novels, 1960s newspapers and other contemporary publications, feature films, documentaries, and music.

MAJOR CREDIT: History; POLS (Related Social Science); SETH (Education); SIS (U.S. Politics; Comparative and International Race Relations; International Communication; International Politics; Peace and Conflict Resolution; U.S. Foreign Policy; Americas); Sociology

HNRS 300-004H THE ETHICS OF KILLING

Jeffrey Reiman

W 2:10-4:50 p.m.

In this course, we will examine philosophical writings on the question of if and when the intentional ending of human life is morally permissible. We will address four main problem areas: euthanasia, abortion, capital punishment, and war. Students will be expected to reflect on the national and international policy implications of the philosophical arguments considered.

MAJOR CREDIT: Law and Society (Law and Justice System cluster); Philosophy and Religion; POLS (Related Social Science); SIS (International Politics; Peace and Conflict Resolution)

HNRS 300-005H FILM WRITING, FILM CULTURE

Jeffrey Middents

TF 11:20 a.m.-12:35 p.m. class;

W 5:30 p.m. screening

From the formation of a genre now known as *film noir* to Siskel & Ebert's thumbs altering the image of ancient Roman decision making in Ridley Scott's *Gladiator*, film criticism has had a notable effect on both how we look at film as well as film-making itself. Paul Willemen notes that *writing* about film extends the conceivably solitary act of film-viewing to engage with other viewers.

This course examines the development of film criticism alongside the film industry over the last century. We will begin by asking who gets to be a critic and what are the cultural implications of critical writing on culture in general. We will then work through a history of writing on film, particularly emphasizing the specialized art/film/entertainment periodicals (especially *Close-Up*, *Screen* and *Cahiers du cinéma*). We will also look at how this writing gave rise to "film culture" in the 1960s and 70s, ushering in an era of film societies and new ways of interpreting film (genre, *auteur*, etc.). Finally, we will examine current trends in film criticism, the contemporary difference between "film criticism" and "film reviewing" and the place of the Internet within the context of this subject. The class will work toward a final project with each student submitting a thorough investigation of the history and critical impact of a journal, critic or critical perspective on film production and/or criticism.

MAJOR CREDIT: Literature; SOC (Media Studies/Visual Media Majors)

HNRS 300-006H PLAYWRITING WITH SHAKESPEARE AND WILSON

Caleen Jennings

M 2:10-4:50 p.m.

What can William Shakespeare and August Wilson teach us about writing our own plays? In this course, students explore a selection of works in these two major Western theatrical canons as a context for developing their own playwriting skills. By investigating how these playwrights write their own identities, experiences, cultures and world views, students discover how to reveal their own. Students will read and analyze plays, see professional and campus productions, perform monologues and scenes and write monologues and scenes. The semester will culminate in a festival of short original plays.

MAJOR CREDIT: Literature; Performing Arts

HNRS 301-001H GENES, BRAIN & BEHAVIOR

Bryan Fantie

T 2:10 - 4:50 pm

The goal of this class is to familiarize students with past, present, and future research in behavioral genetics. We will review both classic and the newest techniques in the quantitative and molecular genetic analysis of behavior comprising cognitive abilities and disabilities, personality, psychopathology, and psychopharmacology.

MAJOR CREDIT: Biology; Psychology

HNRS 302-002H MEDIA POWER IN LATIN AMERICA

Rick Rockwell

MTh 11:20 a.m.-12:35 p.m.

This course explores the interplay between communication systems and the emerging democratic systems of Latin America. Students will receive insight into the business connections of major networks in Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil, and other locations. The course will show how those networks have affected the structure of various democratic systems in the region. Also, the course will explore how various Latin American corporations have grown to become some of the leading international networks with global reach.

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Communication); Kogod; SIS (International Communication; International Development; Americas, Non-Western); SOC (Media Studies/Journalism); Sociology

HNRS 302-003H MEDIA AND THE AMERICAN MIND

Rodger Streitmatter

MTh 12:45-2 p.m.

Movies, TV shows, newspapers, advertising—they influence who we vote for, how we define America's role in global politics, and where we stand on such major issues as same-sex marriage and stem-cell research, while at the same time helping to shape our moral values and to determine how we dress, how we spend our leisure time, and what kind of sexual activities we engage in. This course explores the vital role that the various media genres play—historically as well as in contemporary times—in affecting American society writ large and simultaneously influencing the individual attitudes and actions of those of us who make up that society. Among the required readings in this course are the professor's 2004 book *Sex Sells! ~ The Media's Journey from Repression to Obsession*. SOC majors are encouraged to undertake their honors capstones in conjunction with this course, while non-SOC majors are also eagerly welcomed to enroll in the course.

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Communication); POLS (Social Science Req.); SIS (International Communication; International Politics); SOC (Media Studies/Journalism); Sociology

HNRS 302-004H GLOBAL EMERGING MARKETS

Vladimir Kvint

W 9:55 a.m. -12:35 p.m.

The birth of the Global Emerging Market is a major characteristic of the Global Business World of the 21st Century. It is impossible to overestimate the scale of the Global Emerging Market. Its input in the world's output is about 47 % and 40% of foreign direct investment goes to emerging market countries. Students will participate in the analysis and discussions of the major factors influencing the political and economic strategies of international businesses in emerging markets, including North, Central and South America, Pacific, and Central Asia, the Indian Sub-Continent, Central, Eastern and Southern Europe, the former Soviet Union, and Northern and Southern Africa. This course will examine current global trends influencing the Global Emerging Market as a part of the Global Marketplace. Also, this course will emphasize the various organizational forms of investment in emerging markets, the methods of reduction of political and economic risk of investment, and effective forms of trade with these markets. The intent of this course is to provide practical knowledge on effective execution of cross border transactions and mergers & acquisitions as well as recommendations of setting up international joint ventures, on participation in free economic zones, and on the preparation of import-export transactions. This course will give attention to the role of private business in the reduction of poverty, unemployment and the fight against global terrorism. It will also help students to face the new opportunities and challenges connected with the establishment of the Global Emerging Market.

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Economics); Economics; Justice (Justice, Law Enforcement, and Public Policy cluster); Kogod; SIS (International Communication; International Development; International Economic Relations; International Business); Sociology

HNRS 302-005H UNDERSTANDING CHINA FROM BEIJING

Quansheng Zhao

W 2:10-4:50 p.m.

The purpose of this course is to provide a basic understanding of the history, culture, politics, and foreign relations of China. The class will begin with a general view of China in terms of its history, society, government, and business. In addition, it will examine Chinese foreign policy by providing several case studies. This class will enhance our understanding of China and its relations with the United States in the post-Cold War era. This course discusses not only concrete policy issues, but also theoretical frameworks and will examine the policymaking processes in Beijing. Analyses are conducted at different levels with considerations of international, societal, institutional, and individual factors and will focus on both empirical and theoretical problems. Students will be asked to engage a series of debates and role play during topical presentations.

This course is linked to the University Honors Program Study/Travel Abroad trip planned to Beijing and Shanghai during spring break. Students can sign up for the course and Study/Travel Abroad trip (1 credit) separately.

MAJOR CREDIT: POLS; SIS (International Politics; Asia); Sociology

**HNRS 302-006H NATIONAL SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION:
THE POLITICS OF IMMIGRATION POLICY**

**Chris Rudolph
TH 2:10-4:50 p.m.**

As evidenced by recent discourse and demonstrations, few policy issues stir passions more than immigration. Should countries be more open to immigration, or does mass migration threaten domestic jobs, social harmony, and national identity? To answer this important question, it is important to understand the complex factors that shape policy development. This course examines how national security—defined to include geopolitical, economic, social, and homeland security facets—affects the choices states make regarding immigration and border policies. Students will consider the reasons for past policy decisions, including guest worker programs, amnesty for illegal immigrants, refugee and asylum provisions, and border enforcement measures. Students will also gain an understanding of how these policies affected later migration patterns, generating a new set of policy challenges. After considering immigration politics and policies in the United States and Western Europe since 1945, students will then consider what lessons these provide for current debates: Given the often contrasting impulses for openness and closure, what should immigration and border policies look like? In this course, students will have the opportunity to explore this question and to formulate their own policy proposal.

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Government); POLS; SIS (Comparative and International Race Relations; International Politics; Peace and Conflict Resolution); Sociology

HNRS 302-007H MUSLIM COMMUNITIES IN TRANSITION

**Burcu Ellis
TF 12:45-2:00 p.m.**

Muslim Communities in Transition is a course that explores the complexity and diversity of the Muslim world while identifying continuity and change in the trends that are shaping contemporary Muslim communities. This course draws on social and psychological theories and the particular experiences of diverse Muslim societies to infer the complexities that characterize the transnational bonds that form in an increasingly differentiated yet ever so connected era of globalization. The first section provides an overview of important “idioms” of transnational Muslim identities, including religious know-how, common myths, and core experiences that have had a definitive impact on Muslim societies. The second section introduces different perspectives on what it means to be a Muslim, emphasizing the diversity and complexity of such an identity. The last section explores changing trends among Muslim communities with an eye toward the future. The course does not assume prior knowledge on Islam.

MAJOR CREDIT: POLS (Related Social Science); SIS (International Communication; International Politics; Islamic Studies)

HNRS 302-009H PUBLIC POLICY AND THE POLITICS OF TALK

Christine DeGregorio

W 11:20-2:00 p.m.

Americans are united in their distaste for watching politicians battle one another over setting important national policies. Consider some recent and ongoing examples: securing our national borders; conducting a global war on terrorism, banning gay marriage and regulating tobacco use. The debate is public and often nasty.

This course examines the way political elites manipulate language to build support for their causes. Together, we will first explore a phenomenon called framing, a strategic message manipulation that elected officials (lawmakers and executives), lobby groups, and some in the media employ to sway opinion and arouse action. Who does this the most? When? And to what end? Next, we will examine the underlying conditions that correspond with this form of political persuasion.

Through a review of scholarly research and case-study examples, you will learn about the challenges that policymakers face as they attend to their conflicting goals for office, influence and good policy. It is often forgotten that between elections we, the governed, are an integral part of this policymaking partnership. Contending elites know this as they woo their respective, though fickle, supporters. At the course's end, you will be a more sophisticated consumer of political communication. You will also likely have an increased appreciation for the delicate balance that exists between the government and the governed.

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Government); POLS; SIS (International Communication; U.S. Foreign Policy); SOC (Public Communication; Media Studies)

HNRS 302-010H FROM BE BOP TO HIP HOP: JAZZ AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Clarence Lusane

F 2:10-4:50 p.m.

Jazz has often been referred to as America's only cultural invention, and gift to the world. There is virtually nowhere in the world where one will not find a jazz culture of some sort. From Azerbaijan to Zimbabwe, jazz is being played by local musicians as well as international, mostly American, players on a daily basis. While there are literally thousands of books, movies, journals and research on jazz, very little has been done in the field of International Relations that has looked at the political significance of jazz on a global scale and within specific societies. Interrogation should entail not only a cultural analysis, but political, economic, and social one as well. This course looks at the globalization of jazz from several vantage points. It traces the migration of jazz from African-American cultural enclaves in the United States to its expansion around the world. It looks at the appropriation of jazz by other societies relative to issues of culture, politics, economics and social meaning.

MAJOR CREDIT: SIS (International Communication; International Economic Relations; International Politics; Comparative and International Race Relations; Americas; Africa; Europe)

HNRS 302-011H TOTAL PEACE: INDIVIDUAL AND UNIVERSAL

Abdul Said

T 2:10-4:50 p.m.

This course provides a critical exploration of what constitutes a structural theory of peace. If the twentieth century was one of 'total war' (a balance-of-power driven system steeped in security prisoner dilemmas, or the cruelty of dyads), how do we create the social conditions and institutions necessary to transform systemic conflict at both the international and national levels and to create a condition approximating 'total peace'? What are the dynamics (whether cultural, economic, political, etc.) that influence how peace is constructed and ultimately imposed?

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Government); POLS (Social Science Req.); SIS (International Politics; Peace and Conflict Resolution; U.S. Foreign Policy; Islamic Studies)