

Honors 391D Fall 2009 Course Descriptions

Love, Law and Money in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*

Honors 391D Section 1 Class Number: 34091
W 9:05-9:55 Instructor: Taub , Jennifer email address: jtaub@som.umass.edu

In this course we will explore the relationship between love, law and money in *Pride and Prejudice*. In addition to reading the novel, we will also study gender-bias in the law of entail in Victorian England.

Energy, Water, and the Carbon Cycle

Honors 391D Section 4 Class Number: 34094
M 10:10-11:00 Instructor: Petsch , Steven email address: spetsch@geo.umass.edu

Energy resources, water resources and the role of carbon-based emissions in global climate change are each rising to the top of the public conscience. Each of these also represents issues in which the geosciences play a central role in assessing the resource(s), describing present and future problems, and developing mitigation strategies. The course will be divided into three four-week modules. The Energy module will begin with a one-hour lecture summarizing energy resource supply, demand, impacts and future predictions, partnered with assigned readings drawn from web-based resources. The 2nd week of this module will consist of a group discussion of these readings, emphasizing diverse perspectives among those within and outside of the energy industry. The 3rd and 4th weeks of this module will consist of 10-minute oral presentations from students on subtopics within energy resources, focusing on proposed strategies to reduce the economic and environmental impact of energy resource extraction and use. The Water and Carbon Cycle modules will be similarly structured into lecture, discussion and presentation. Discussion within the Water module will be focused on differing resource development and allocation among water-rich and water-poor regions (nationally and internationally); oral presentations will focus on critical domestic/regional water resource and water quality issues. Discussion within the Carbon Cycle module will be focused on discerning realistic strategies to mitigate climate change as well as the impacts these strategies could have; oral presentations will also focus on mitigation strategies and their impacts. Each student will also be required to complete a final written project in the form of a brief, white-paper-style summary of one of their three oral presentations. Grades will be based on participation in discussion, oral presentations and the written project.

Foods that prevent disease

Honors 391D Section 5 Class Number: 34095

F 1:25-2:15

Instructor: Park , Yeonhwa

email address: ypark@foodsci.umass.edu

Even with current knowledge of the role of food and nutrients on health, there are more chronic diseases than ever, such as cancer and cardiovascular diseases, as well as obesity. It is known that proper nutrition and food choices can improve or reduce incidences of some of these chronic diseases. However, it is also true that nutritional changes have not been implemented properly enough to impact the overall health of the general population. Thus we need to develop better strategies for improving our own health. This course will explore potentially innovative approaches to this issue through understanding food, the food supply, and social and environmental modifications.

Why Is Renewable Energy Not a Reality Today?

Honors 391D

Section 6

Class Number: 34096

W 1:25-2:15

Instructor: Auerbach , Scott

email address: auerbach@chem.umass.edu

In this seminar course, students will learn about the frontier challenges in harnessing renewable energy from chemical sources such as solar energy, hydrogen fuel cells, and biofuels.

Understanding Privacy in a Digital World

Honors 391D

Section 7

Class Number: 34097

M 2:30-3:20

Instructor: Milne , George R.

email address: milne@mktg.umass.edu

This course examines the tension between the benefits of information technologies and the risk of privacy invasion in today's market place. Theories of privacy, government and self regulation efforts will be presented. Marketers' use of new information technologies as applied to social networking (i.e. Facebook), Internet and in-store shopping, and mobile communications and tracking will be discussed. Ramifications for consumers' quality of life will be debated. Students will write and present a small case study of a marketing organization that violated consumers' privacy.

Quiet Classics: An Exploration of the work of novelist Alice McDermott

Honors 391D

Section 8

Class Number: 34098

M 2:30-3:20

Instructor: Blais , Madeleine

email address: mhblais@journ.umass.edu

In this seminar, students will read two works by this master of realism, CHARMING BILLY, and AFTER THIS, with an eye towards analyzing her writing style and evaluating the ethnic content of her vision. Given the Valley's rich history as an Irish American mecca, local lore will also be

presented to deepen our understanding. The Irish refer to history and nonfiction events as "the music of what happens" and we will examine how that music in relation to her work.

The Hidden Powers of Poetry

Honors 391D Section 10 Class Number: 34100
M 3:35-4:25 Instructor: Wier , Dara email address: daraw@hfa.umass.edu

Our meetings will take up one amazing poem at a time, and allow that poem to lead us to another poem, constructing dialogs between poems and poets as our conversation develops, we'll start with a poem by James Tate, and perhaps we'll quickly throw in other poems by poets recently on campus, Tomaz Salamun, Thomas Sayers, Ellis, Arisa White, Charles Simic, John Ashbery, and lots of poems from poets whose first books have just come out, some of whom will be around for you to meet and with whom you can have conversations about how they tune up their imaginations, what ways do they work, how do they convince themselves a poem is acting the ways they hope, who are they reading, how does poetry fit into their lives? Students will complete research on a poet or text of their choice and present their findings to the class.

Knowledge is Power: Battling Japanese Ghosts and Demons

Honors 391D Section 11 Class Number: 34101
M 6:00-6:55 Instructor: Domier , Sharon email address: sdomier@library.umass.edu

Japanese popular culture is replete with references to ghosts, demons, shapeshifters, and monsters (yokai). Anyone who watches Japanese anime, reads Japanese manga, or enjoys Japanese films or literature will have come across references to yokai. But why should we be wary of foxes or badger dogs? What happens if you run into a nurikabe (damp wall)? In this course, we will learn how to "arm ourselves with knowledge" to be able to understand the power and influence of the monster culture in Japan. Each student will research a yokai of his/her choice, locating the origins of the concept and image, its representations in literature and film, and share those findings with the class. Based on class feedback, students will share their knowledge more broadly by adding information to Wikipedia. The final class will be a viewing of the film "The Great Yokai War" in which we will identify the monsters as they appear on the screen and point out their strengths and weaknesses. No previous knowledge of Japanese culture or language is required for this course. Students who are studying Japanese will be encouraged to use Japanese language resources whenever possible and will be provided with additional training and resources as requested.

Art in the Mexican Renaissance

Honors 391D Section 12 Class Number: 34217

M 6:00-6:55

Instructor: Stern , Peter

email address: pstern@library.umass.edu

This course will examine the visual arts in Mexico in the period after the Mexican Revolution, up to the Second World War. Government policy actively encouraged the arts, and out of this effort emerged the Mexican Muralist movement, arguably the most significant and internationally-known art movement from Latin America. Artists such as Diego Rivera, Jose Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siqueiros became world-famous, not only from their work in Mexico, but in the United States as well. However, many other artists worked during this period; outside of muralism, movements like Estridentismo and !20-20! represented the antithesis of government-subsidized nationalist art.

American Music as History, Politics and Metaphysics

Honors 391D

Section 13

Class Number: 34102

W 7:00-9:00

Instructor: McBride , Nick

email address: mcbride@journ.umass.edu

Through the prism of American music, Jazz, Blues, Rock and Rap, this course looks at what Aldous Huxley defined as the second most perfect language after silence. Music provides a non threatening way to look at race, identity, inequality and the beings. American music is a hybrid art form influenced by many cultures. It is a source for a discourse that may lead us further down the path to a more perfect union and provide sign posts for establishing global community.

Effective Teaching PK-16: What Works?

Honors 391D

Section 14

Class Number: 34130

Tu 9:30-10:20

Instructor: Dimmitt , Catherine

email address: cdimmitt@educ.umass.edu

This course will explore what is known about effective teaching from preschool to college. We will identify themes across age groups as well as what differs at various developmental levels. The possible impact of social context factors (gender, ethnicity, geography, resources, family, and so on) will be an ongoing consideration. The practical application of theory and research will be addressed as well. This course is well suited for those considering going into education, for those who want to be informed consumers of education for their children, and for anyone interested in educational reform and best practices.

Culture, Family, and Community: "It Takes a Village"

Honors 391D

Section 15

Class Number: 34139

Tu 9:30-10:20

Instructor: Forward , Jean

email address:
jforward@anthro.umass.edu

Family and community are the home base of culture. Readings will focus on ethnographies, narratives and other references which emphasize the roles and interconnections of families,

communities and cultures. Readings on qualitative research methods and theories will prepare students to create research proposals for ethnographic fieldwork. Students will consider a variety of research methods including Participant-observation, open ended interviews, personal narratives and video recording by and with family/community members. Prof. Forward is preparing an ethnographic research fieldtrip to the Scottish Gaidhlig communities in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

Exploring Cultural Identity Through Icons: African Masks, Russian Orthodox Icons and Andy Warhol's Marilyn Monroe: What Do They Have in Common?

Honors 391D

Section 16

Class Number: 34151

Tu 11:15-12:05

Instructor: Hunt , Priscilla

email address: phunt@slavic.umass.edu

This seminar will address how culture communicates its core values and ideals through visual imagery and produces cultural icons that become models for behaviour and sources of identity. In contemporary America, we recognize Andy Warhol's image of Marilyn Monroe, Clint Eastwood's face, George Washington's portrait and even the McDonald's "M" as cultural icons. A deeper understanding of this phenomenon, its nature and function can be achieved if we examine its occurrence within the matrix of a pre-secular, traditional religious civilization such as Byzantium and medieval Russia. This course will examine the emergence in Byzantium and then Russia of a cult of sacred icon with its own symbolic language, ideology, sacred narratives and rhetorical functions of creating identity for the state, church and people. I will offer case studies of certain iconographic subjects that play a key role in Russian national identity as produced, conceived and perceived over time in a continuum from Byzantium to medieval to modern and post-modern Russia (where the cult of icons has reemerged in full force since the fall of communism). The case studies will be presented in a broader framework that address the general significance of icons, including the church dogma on icons and their copies and their relation to frescoes and mosaics; the icon's relation to the cult of ancestors, of saints, of rulers and also to popular pre-Christian rituals and gods; the icon's non-representational symbolic language as a system for expressing communal values, the sociology of icon production and dissemination; icons in liturgy and ritual; the reproductions of iconographic subjects in various media. Comparative analysis between the American cultural icon and Russian icon will be encouraged in class and in research papers.

Recipe for Change

Honors 391D

Section 17

Class Number: 34170

Tu 11:15-12:05

Instructor: Monaco , Pamela

email address: pmonaco@uww.umass.edu

A wide selection of cookbooks from the Beatrice A. McIntosh special collection would be selected for particular use of the class. The first part of the course will introduce students to the topic of special collections: How is a collection formed? How is it catalogued? How are future purchases for the collection decided? And how does this collection differ from others? After students have an understanding of the special collection, the remainder of the course will be dedicated to piecing

together the changes in American society, with a particular focus on communities in Massachusetts, through a careful reading and understanding of the cookbooks. Students will learn to read critically in order to discern how the evolution of recipes, the changes in appendices and tips provided, the narrative of each cookbook, and the assumptions made about audience and society tell us about changing dynamics of family, changing family economics, and the changing gender roles in society.

Generational Cohorts: Values That Direct Behavior Throughout Life

Honors 391D Section 18 Class Number: 34197
Tu 1:00-1:50 Instructor: Schewe , Charles D. email address: schewe@mktg.umass.edu

Events experienced during one's coming of age years [roughly 17-23] create values in one that remain relatively stable throughout life. Those going through the Great Depression during that time are now aged 86-97 but still save. Why? Boomers do not save? Why? Historical "defining moments" [assassinations, wars, economic downturns] change social values with those in these impressionable late adolescent/early adulthood years. There are 7 "generational cohorts that span those aged 97 to those coming of age today. Each of these age groups will be examined in detail with an eye towards how their behavior manifests their cohort value structure. Examples from marketing and from management will be used to illustrate the value of understanding Generational Cohorts but the application will show how many facets of life reflect these cohort values.

Beyond Organic Farming

Honors 391D Section 19 Class Number: 34218
Th 1:00-1:50 Instructor: Barker , Allen V. email address: barker@pssci.umass.edu

This course will cover topics not usually covered in the regular course of PLSOILIN 120 Organic Farming and Gardening. Topics will include Organic Certification, Genetically Manipulated Plants, Irradiation of Foods, Biodynamic Farming, Permaculture, Monocultures, Organic Livestock Production, Sustainable Farming, Companion Planting, and Vermicomposting. Students will give seminars on these topics and will write an essay on the topic that they present or on another topic if they choose to do so. Grading will be based on class participation, the seminar presentation, and the essay.

Effective Display of Quantitative Information

Honors 391D Section 20 Class Number: 34230
Tu 1:00-1:50 Instructor: Staudenmayer , email address: jstauden@math.umass.edu
John

Graphs, charts and other displays of quantitative information permeate modern media. Effective, interesting, ethical, and clear graphical communication of quantitative information is an important

skill that is difficult to develop. Toward the goal of helping students to learn that skill, this course will provide students with a lexicon and objective criteria that can be used to differentiate good displays and bad ones; facility with the elements of a good display of quantitative information; and practical experience with software that can be used to create effective displays. Students will learn these skills and tools through readings, and discussion/criticism of the effective and misleading graphs and charts that we will find on and in current websites, scholarly journals, newspapers, and magazines. Students will develop practical experience improving the graphs that they criticize and develop their own displays using an open source graphing computer language (R) and Microsoft Excel. The class will culminate with a project where students develop a graphical and quantitative presentation about a subject of their own choosing.

The Beats: On the Road and Howl

Honors 391D

Section 21

Class Number: 39047

Tu 2:30-3:20

Instructor: Clayton , John

email address: jclayton@english.umass.edu

We start with the first public reading of 'Howl' in San Francisco in 1955 at Six Gallery and meet the players Kerouac, Ginsberg, Corso, Ferlinghetti, Snyder, etc. We begin with the two texts and get familiar with the movement. There will be a gap of a week so that students will have read both texts by the time they return to the second class. In class we'll have a brief quiz; then we'll have discussion about the two texts and students will write a self-reflexive response to one of them. The third class, some of these will be read, and we'll discuss various aspects of the movement and the texts preparatory to students undertaking research. Students may do their research in America of the fifties and the beat response, in the novel, in another Kerouac novel or Ginsberg poem, in drugs and art, in bebop, etc. The culminating work is a (brief) research paper, which they will talk about, will talk from, not read. It can include visual images, music, etc. Days five, six, and seven will be presentation days. I'll expect a final paper with research log and Works Cited page.

The 2008 Federal Physical Activity Guidelines: How much exercise is enough?

Honors 391D

Section 22

Class Number: 39048

Tu 9:30-10:20

Instructor: Freedson , Patty

email address: psf@kin.umass.edu

This seminar will provide students information regarding the development of the PA guidelines and how the science was used to translate empirical evidence to specific activity recommendations for health. For the paper and presentation, students will identify a particular disease or condition and develop an activity program that matches the guidelines recommendations, and propose a way to evaluate the effectiveness of the program for a particular population.

Through the lens of a cup: a look at the world through the culture of tea

Honors 391D
Tu 4:00-4:50

Section 23
Instructor: Bischoff, Annaliese

Class Number: 39049
email address: abischof@larp.umass.edu

In this seminar students will explore more deeply this cultural phenomena of tea culture. Tea as a beverage offers curious dualities, as the 19th century British Prime Minister Gladstone marveled: tea can warm you if you are cold, while it can cool you if you are too heated. It can cheer you when depressed or calm you when you are excited. Tea has served as a medicine, as meditation, as money, as well as a motive for war. Tea has been a beverage that has saved and changed lives, as Greg Mortenson after his failed attempt to climb a mountain peak in Pakistan can attest. Falling ill, Mortenson would not have survived had it not been from the kindness of the Baltis who nursed him back to health. Haji Ali, the man who first welcomed Mortenson into Korphe, imparted this bit of wisdom to Greg: "The first time you share tea with a Balti, you are a stranger. / The second time you take tea, you are an honored guest. / The third time you share a cup of tea, you become family." Touched by this kindness Mortenson began devoting himself to a lifelong effort to build schools for this region against countless odds. In this seminar students are invited to investigate the power of tea with a quest of their own.

Aging: Living longer, healthier, and more meaningful lives

Honors 391D
Tu 5:15-6:05

Section 24
Instructor: Jacelon, Cynthia

Class Number: 39050
email address: jacelon@nursing.umass.edu

Based on the book, "Aging with Grace," students will select aspects of research on aging. Topics may include memory, physical function, lifestyle, narrative analysis, neurophysiology, as well as others. Using their major as a foundation, students will explore areas of interest by practicing the full spectrum of communication skills—speaking, writing, reading, and listening, and especially practicing oral presentation in an advanced academic context. We will discuss the conventions of effective and ethical research—source evaluation, accurate and honest documentation, and accepted methods of research presentation, written and oral, while exchanging ideas across a range of disciplines and examining the individual and cultural predispositions and biases that influence how one acquires information, interprets it, and eventually gains knowledge.

The Cost of Food

Honors 391D
Tu 6:00-6:50

Section 25
Instructor: Goodwin, Steven

Class Number: 39051
email address: sgoodwin@nre.umass.edu

A comparison of local and industrial food supply chains.

Myth and meaning in life and literature

Honors 391D
W 6:00-6:50

Section 26
Instructor: Chapko , Stephanie

Class Number: 39906
email address: schapko@acad.umass.edu

Joseph Campbell has called myth “the secret opening through which the inexhaustible energies of the cosmos pour into human cultural manifestation.” Through myth and ritual, individuals may come to understand themselves and the world in which they live. Although the specifics of mythology may vary from culture to culture, the concepts and stories underlying mythology reflect shared truths which are applicable to all cultures and which provide an understanding of the human experience. In this course, we will examine the nature of mythology and its use in literature. In particular, we will focus on the hero journey and its relevance for the individual and community. We will study the meaning of the grail legend and the reasons for its continued power to engage individuals in the contemporary world. We will also examine the role of women in mythology and assess the impact of mythological systems which exclude women. Finally, we will evaluate the impact of science and technology on mythology and religion. In doing our work, we will continue to pose these questions: Do we truly need a viable mythological or spiritual context within which to live our lives? What are the mythological systems underlying our communities today? How may the commonalities of those individual mythological systems provide us with the understanding to create a viable world community? In the Vedas, it states: “Truth is one...The sages call it by many names.”

History of the Book and Printing

Honors 391D
Tu 11:15-12:05

Section 27
Instructor: Kelly , James R.

Class Number: 40421
email address: jrkelly@library.umass.edu

Taking full advantage of the W.E.B Du Bois’s Special Collections and University Archives as well as the Massachusetts Center for Renaissance Studies rare book collection, this course will explore the history of the printed word from the late manuscript tradition to the contemporary electronic book. Along with readings that highlight the historical landmarks in the development of the book and publishing, there will be opportunity to work with a late 19th-century iron hand press as well as close contact with books from the 16th and 17th centuries. We will also look at papermaking methods, binding art and practice, type founding, and illustration. If time and resources permit, we may also visit the remarkable rare book collections at Amherst and Smith Colleges and/or have hands-on demonstrations of related bookmaking crafts.