

**SPRING 2009**  
**FIRST YEAR SEMINARS**  
**Updated January 5, 2009**

Please note that some departments offer more than one first year seminar numbered 089 but use different section numbers to designate the different seminars. Also, please keep in mind that changes can occur in the list of First Year Seminars. We recommend that you consult the on-line directory of classes for the most up-to-date information about course offerings and availability.

**AFAM 051 Masquerades of Blackness**  
**TR 9:30-10:45 am**  
**VP, US**

Charlene Regester

Designed to investigate how the concept of race has been represented in cinema historically, with a particular focus on or interest in representations of race when blackness is masqueraded. Its intent is to launch an investigative inquiry into how different races are represented on screen in various time periods, how we as spectators are manipulated by these cinematic constructions of race, and how race is marked or coded other than through visual representation.

**AMST 057 Access to Higher Education**  
**TR 11:00-12:15 pm**  
**SS, NA, EE**

Rachel Willis

"Education then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men, the balance-wheel of the social machinery." ~ Horace Mann

Access to higher education requires ability, experience, and skills. Success in application, admission, matriculation, and graduation is a function of numerous other advantages as well. This APPLES course explores barriers to access to American colleges and universities with a particular focus on disadvantages created through differences in socioeconomic circumstances. A broad survey of the college admissions process and policies concerning equitable access to higher education will be supplemented with field projects that assist others in obtaining access to colleges and universities. An active service-learning pedagogy will facilitate the development, implementation, and documentation of the team project. As a Carolina Entrepreneurial Initiative offering, this FYS has an additional goal of developing the social entrepreneurial skills of seminar students.

**AMST 058 Cultures of Dissent: Radical Social Thought in America since 1880**  
**TR 3:30-4:45 pm**  
**HS, NA**

Jay Garcia

This course examines the history of radical social thought in American history, focusing in particular on examples from "leftist" and "collectivist" traditions, and emphasizes the many forms radicalism has taken by exploring different radical thinkers' dissenting critiques of dominant political, economic and social arrangements.

**ANTH 051 Environmentalism and American Society**  
**TR 3:30-4:45 pm**  
**SS**

Dorothy Holland

This seminar takes on the social problem of environmental degradation. We examine different strands of the environmental movement in the United States (e.g., anti-consumerism, biocentrism, environmental justice, rebuilding local food systems) in an effort to understand their analyses, solutions and tactics from an anthropological perspective. A larger question relates to social movements and how they bring about cultural change. Students conduct original group

research project on the environmental movement in North Carolina. A field trip is planned.

**ANTH 054 The Indians' New Worlds: Southeastern Histories from 1200 to 1800**

**TR 9:30-10:45 am**

**HS, NA, US, WB**

Margaret Scarry

From the 16th century on, Indians living in Southeastern North America met and interacted with European explorers and colonists. The encounters between Indians and Europeans changed the lives of all concerned, but the changes took place in and were shaped by existing cultures. Southern history generally emphasizes the colonial and civil war eras and is told from the perspectives of the explorers and colonists. In this seminar, we will use archaeological and documentary evidence to explore Southern history from the Indians' perspective.

**ANTH 089 Crisis and Resilience: Past and Future of Human Societies**

**TR 9:30-10:45 am**

**SS**

Patricia McAnany

Right now, our society faces an economic crisis and many wonder if our financial system has the resilience to survive. Societies have faced challenges—political, economic, and environmental—since the end of the Pleistocene. What can we learn about human resilience from studying the apocalyptic? In this seminar, we take a long view of human society and examine responses to crises engendered by political, economic, and environmental forces. Cases to be discussed reach back to Mesopotamia (3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C.), Biblical accounts, Classic Maya and U.S. Pueblo dwellers of the first millennium A.D. and also include contemporary situations such as the Rwandan genocide, nations such as Haiti that are alleged to be “failed” states, and the current global crisis of environmental sustainability. Participants gain familiarity with evaluating primary sources in archaeology, history, and environmental studies and conduct interviews with scholars of archaeology, resilience, and environmental trends. The ultimate aim of this seminar is to foster critical analytic skills that aid in evaluating narratives (in both scholarly and popular media) about societal crises and human resilience.

**ART 061 Introduction to African American Art**

**MWF 9:00-9:50 am**

**VP**

John Bowles

Focusing on the Carolinas, this course explores the many ways African Americans have used art to define themselves and their communities. We will ask how art has been used to maintain cultural traditions, shape American culture, and build political solidarity. Through case studies from all regions of the Carolinas, from the eras of colonialism and slavery to the present, we will study the cultivation of artistic practices from Africa as the foundation for community solidarity and local resistance to slavery and racism; African American painters, sculptors, and craftsmen who earned national reputations for the quality of their work; artists who re-imagined and redefined African American identity through art; and artists throughout the twentieth century who represented the daily lives and hardships of rural and working-class blacks and offered art as a remedy. As a class, we will visit local museums and archives and students will conduct original research using regional sources. Persistent questions throughout the semester will include, How does the art of African Americans in the Carolinas provoke us to question our own identities and roles within the region and what is the role of art today in shaping public discourse?

**ART 089.001 Assumed Identities: Performance in Photography**

**M 11:00 am -1:50 pm**

**VP, CI**

Susan Page

This course will use photography and its' aspects of role playing, performance and documentation to understand the construction of identity. We will look at historical and contemporary

photographers who use assumed identities and personas to comment on and explore their changing identity roles in society and challenge society's stereotypes. We will explore identity and its representation through individual and group performance/photography projects working with still photography, video and avatars in Second Life (the virtual on-line 3-D world).

**ART 089.002 The Artistic Temperament: How to Use It; Not Abuse It; How to Nurture It and Let it Work for You**

**MW 2:00-4:50 pm**

**VP**

Jim Hirschfield

This class examines the daunting yet important questions of how to advance and sustain one's artistic production. We focus not only on what it means to be a "successful artist," but examine the importance of creativity and hard work in any successful venture. While looking at the work and lives of musicians (Hector Berlioz to the Beatles), playwrights (Shakespeare to Arthur Miller), film makers (Werner Herzog to Federico Fellini), and visual artists (Michelangelo to Alberto Giacometti), The Artistic Temperament grapples with what it means to be in the business of self expression. The class is meant to help students understand who they are, and how in the words of Joseph Campbell they can, "follow their bliss." As we consider career options, two important questions to consider are: "What does it mean to be an artist?" and "What lies before me?" Ultimately, the key to success in the arts is finding the physical and spiritual nourishment to continue, sustain, and move an artistic activity forward. This class focuses not on the road to success per se, but on driving down that road, learning to avoid those pot holes and muddy patches that can throw one off the road.

**ART 089.003 Art and the Body**

**MWF 10:00-10:50 am**

**VP, NA**

Cary Levine

From classical Greek nudes to the crucified Christ to the mutilated victims of modern warfare, representations of the human form have always been linked to essential norms, ideals and aspirations--both personal and communal. This course will examine manifestations of "the body" in Western art. Focusing on depictions of the body in art as well as the use of the body as art, we will explore how such portrayals relate to broad social, cultural and political contexts. We will consider whether particular works of art reinforce or undermine traditional oppositions between normalcy and perversity, attraction and repulsion, nature and culture. Particular attention will be paid to art in which the body functions as a form of dissent, challenging conventions of gender, race, sexuality, or the proscription of certain bodily functions and substances. This course will involve intensive class discussion, diverse reading and writing assignments, and related special events happening across campus. Please note that some of the material we will cover might be considered offensive.

**ASIA 089 Chasing Madame Butterfly**

**TR 2:00-3:15 pm**

**VP, NA, CI**

Jan Bardsley

One of the most famous operas in the world, Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* (1904), a tragic tale of love betrayed, has its roots in novels, a play, and the history of relations between Japanese and foreigners in the city of Nagasaki. Why have the stories of Madame Butterfly captured this attention, inspired such diverse interpretations, and incited debate? Students explore these questions by learning the history of Nagasaki and about tourism to the city, by reading the early stories of Madame Butterfly, and by considering the newer stage productions, *M. Butterfly* and *Miss Saigon*, that reinterpret the story. We also read essays that offer widely different perspectives on Madame Butterfly, delving into the controversies that have erupted over representations of Japan, interracial romance, and cross-racial casting. Field trips, guest speakers, a sushi-making event, and the chance to do your own original research on Madame

Butterfly make this seminar productive and fun.

### **BIOL 081 Biologists as Entrepreneurs**

**TR 9:30-10:45 am**

**CI**

Seth R. Reice

This course will explore how and why biologists function simultaneously as scientists and entrepreneurs. To understand biologists as entrepreneurs we must start with a detailed understanding of the scientific method. Scientific and biological research is very competitive. We also need to understand how science works, including how ideas compete with one another in the court of scientific opinion. We need to understand how major ideas take hold and displace older ideas. This is all about innovations in biology. We will examine Scientific Revolutions in Biology. To be a successful biologist one must learn how to generate new ideas and sell (market) those ideas to granting agencies and journals, test those ideas and produce a research product. You will meet several biological entrepreneurs and learn from their personal stories. I will teach you how to write a research proposal. This course will teach you about the practical, pragmatic and fascinating ways of working biologists.

### **BUSI 051 Business Accounting**

**MW 2:00-3:15 pm**

**CI**

Edward J. Blocher

Corporate financial reporting is the key means that companies have to communicate to their investors, regulators, and the general public who rely on the integrity and objectivity of these reports. Take a company you are interested in -- Wal-Mart, or GM, or any company—how would you interpret the information and evaluate the trustworthiness of the report? In this course, students will develop the skills needed to examine and understand company financial reports. Our goal is to understand the critical elements of these reports, with a particular focus on identifying the potential for misleading and fraudulent information.

### **CHEM 070 You Don't Have to Be a Rocket Scientist**

**MW 2:00-3:15 pm**

**PL**

Domenic Tiani

Science as presented in the mass media is often shallow and misleading. Critical evaluation of news reports and claims by politicians, although daunting for the nonscientist, is not difficult if a few basic principles are applied. The underlying theme of this first year seminar is the development of the basic tools for critically examining information from, or flaws in, news reports and popular science writing. Additional readings by and about scientists are designed to present scientists and science in a more intimate context. The assigned books are: *Voodoo Science* by Robert L. Park; *"Surely you're joking, Mr. Feynman": Adventures of a Curious Character* by Richard P. Feynman; and *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance: an Inquiry into Values* by Robert Pirsig.

### **CLAS 058 What's So Funny? Women and Comedy from Athens to Hollywood**

**TR 12:30-1:45 pm**

**LA, NA, WB**

Sharon James

This course will consider what the ancient Greeks and Romans found funny, as well as how that humor translated (or not) into modern America. We will read comedies from Greece and Rome, and watch selected films and television episodes, asking how women and gender are presented, how those presentations change over time, and how humor deals with gender. Comedy offers what we might call a social document—both a snapshot of, and a commentary on, the issues of its times—so we'll also think about how we can learn from comedy about the changing lives of women, from classic old Hollywood films to television. Our viewings will go from "My Man

Godfrey" and "Bringing up Baby" to "I Love Lucy" to "Friends." The students will choose most of our film and TV selections. They will also write and perform a short comic play that represents the themes they identify and study in this seminar.

### **CLAS 071 The Architecture of Empire**

**TR 2:00-3:15 pm**

**HS, BN, WB**

G.K. Sams

The goal of the first-year seminar will be to examine the architecture of ancient empires, beginning with that of Egypt and ending with the Roman Empire. Analysis will be particularly concerned with the use of architecture as an instrument of empire.

### **COMM 082 Globalizing Organizations**

**TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm**

**SS, CI, GL**

Sarah Dempsey

"Globalization" is both a hotly contested subject and a central part of contemporary life. Through the analysis of readings and films, we will delve into the contentious debates surrounding globalization and explore the ethical and social issues that arise within global forms of communicating and organizing. The objectives of this course include increasing your awareness and understanding of (1) multinational corporations and global labor flows, (2) international nongovernmental organizations, (3) multilateral lending institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary fund, and (4) new forms of social entrepreneurship. Course assignments include participating in a structured round table discussion and writing a case study of grounded globalism.

### **COMM 089 Organizing for Community Change Through Youth and Adult Partnerships**

**R 2:00-4:50 pm**

**SS, EE**

Patricia Parker

In this first year seminar we explore the possibilities for collective leadership involving youth and adults in vulnerable communities. With assistance from local youth and community activists, students will work in teams to research and design community-based change projects. They will attend and participate in community organizing events and activities to gain additional insights on their respective community-based topic and collective leadership processes. Students will present their projects at a Robertson's funded leadership conference on youth-adult partnerships planned for April, 2009, on the UNC campus. The conference will bring together professional consultants working in youth empowerment and community change; UNC and Duke student groups; and community groups engaging youth in collective leadership projects across traditional divides of culture, race, and economics. Seminar participants will write personal essays reflecting on their work in the class, engagement with the community, and participation at the conference.

### **COMP 061 3D Animation with Computers: Your Cinematic Debut**

**\*\*\*\*\*CANCELLED\*\*\*\*\***

**QI**

Gregory Welch

Animated features have historically been created by sketching individual frames of a movie on celluloid sheets, photographing the "cells" one-at-a-time, and assembling the photos into a complete movie. In recent years, due in part to increasingly powerful computers and software tools, computer animation has emerged as a viable alternative, and a main-stream genre in its own right. Artists use computers to create three-dimensional (3D) models of the characters and scenery, they plan and program a sequence of character movements, and then automatically generate a sequence of 2D digital images for the final movie. Popular examples include the Pixar/Disney features *Toy Story*, *A Bug's Life*, *Finding Nemo*, and *Cars*. This course is designed to combine some math, physical science, and computer graphics, with the fun and creative aspects

of movie making. If you are comfortable using a personal computer, moderately creative or artistic, and enjoy animated films, this seminar is for you. We combine lectures covering fundamental topics such as 3D geometry and modeling, realistic simulation of lighting and motion, and digital movie editing, with a hands-on laboratory experience. Individual students will plan, implement, and at the end of the semester publicly present an original 2-5 minute animated movie.

### **COMP 065 Folding, From Paper to Proteins**

**TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm**

**PL**

Jack Snoeyink

Explore the art of origami, the science of protein structure, and the mathematics of robotics and graph theory through lectures, discussions, and projects involving artistic folding, mathematical puzzles, scientific exploration, and research.

### **COMP 066 Random Thoughts**

**TR 12:30-1:45 pm**

**QR**

John Halton

In order to familiarise students with some powerful scientific tools and to teach them how they are used, we focus on two questions. (i) What is a *mathematical proof*, and how is it useful? (ii) What are *randomness* and *probability*, and how can they be used? To illustrate these concepts, we learn to understand and manipulate some important *mathematical symbolism*, and also *how to program in Excel with the RAND() command*. We consider a succession of puzzles, such as (a)  $N$  people meet at a party; can each of them shake hands with a *different* number of others? (b) Can we express the square root of 2 as a fraction  $p/q$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are integers (whole numbers)? (c) If a disease is rather rare in a given population, how should we interpret a positive result (indicating illness) in a medical test for this disease? (d) How can we program in Excel the statistical behavior of the rolling of three "fair" dice, or the drawing of poker-hands from a well-shuffled deck? How do we estimate the accuracy of our results?

### **DRAM 080 Psychology of Clothes: Motivations for Dressing-up and Dressing-down**

**TR 12:30-1:45 pm**

**VP, CI**

Jade Bettin

The course seeks to help students find ways to articulate their own motivations for dress and then apply the ideas they have discovered to the ways in which individuality as well as group attitudes are expressed through clothing.

### **DRAM 085 Documentary Theatre**

**TR 9:30-10:45 am**

**VP, EE, NA**

Kathryn Williams

This course explores the political and social ramifications of documentary theatre in the U.S. from the 1990s to the present. We will spend the first half of the semester studying interview techniques and reading examples of documentary theatre by playwrights such as Anna Deavere Smith, Culture Clash, and Moisés Kaufman and the Tectonic Theatre Project. In the second half of the semester, the students will investigate a local community of their choosing and create an interview-based performance as a final project. The class will perform this play for an invited audience at the end of the semester.

### **ECON 055 The Economics of Sports**

**MWF 2:00-2:50 pm**

**SS, CI**

Rita A. Balaban

This course uses a variety of economic tools to analyze selected topics and issues related to professional, collegiate, and recreational sports. Through readings, lectures, discussions, field visits, and economic experiments we will use the sports industry to learn about competitive and noncompetitive market structures, labor markets, market failure, and public finance. Some of the questions to be considered follow. How have the structure and organization of leagues contributed to their success? What role should communities play in retaining or attracting teams? How much should professional athletes be paid? What is the economic impact of the sports industry on our community? Upon completion of this course, it is hoped that you will watch sports and read sporting news through the eyes of an economist.

### **ENGL 056 Projections of Empire: Colonial and Postcolonial Fiction and Film**

**TR 2:00-3:15 pm**

**LA, GL**

Pam Cooper

The course examines depictions of empire in twentieth-century fiction and film - specifically, issues of power, identity, and themes raised by British colonialism - which it reconsiders in the frame of the postcolonial. It also explores a part of this project the cultural implications of transforming novel into film. Beginning with "The Man Who Would Be King," we will investigate modernist portrayals of empire in *A Passage to India*, *Mrs. Dalloway*, and *Heart of Darkness*. Using the latter as a historical lens, we will approach the postcolonial through *Pascali's Island*, *The English Patient*, *The Commitments*, and *Trainspotting*. Like *Heart*, *The Remains of the Day* will act as a prism, focusing imperialism and its aftermath as deeply influencing our world today.

### **ENGL 070 Courtly Love—Then and Now**

**\*\*\*\*\*CANCELLED\*\*\*\*\***

**LA, NA**

Beverly Taylor

How have ideas about courtship changed between the twelfth-century "Rules of Love" penned by Andrew the Chaplain and 1995's *The Rules: Time-Tested Secrets for Capturing the Heart of Mr. Right*? Just what was "courtly love"? And how has it influenced our own views of romance? Our readings will include literature which defined this influential concept, from *The Art of Love* by the Latin writer Ovid; to medieval Arthurian romances and troubadour lyrics; to Renaissance sonnets and Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. We will trace the influence of these traditions in works by more recent writers such as Tennyson and Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and in contemporary films, cartoons, and advertisements. In the process we will be exploring the history of Western thought about gender relations, and the political and economic implications of our ideas about beauty, sex, and love.

### **ENGL 084 Into the West**

**MWF 11:00-11:50 pm**

**LA, CI, NA**

Randi Davenport

The cowboy is an American hero whose presence endures even now, long after the closing of the American frontier. D. H. Lawrence wrote that "The essential American soul is hard, isolate, stoic, and a killer." Writers and filmmakers continually create and recreate this profoundly fictionalized character, often locating him in a tale where he is compelled to rescue an innocent victim of America's frontier enemies. Each version of the cowboy—from Zane Grey's lone rider on the Texas frontier to the retired men of *Unforgiven*—raises questions for us: What qualities do we associate with American heroism? How do we interact with land and territory that is not our own, as well as with the people who live there? What does it mean to be a good American? How does a good citizen behave when faced with moral choices? Are there distinctly American ethics—and what are they? Why do we associate the West with freedom? What role does violence play in American culture? Students will read novels, short stories, film, and select non-fiction in order to write about cowboys and gunslingers. They will work in groups in class and out, and will team up to write and produce an original short film featuring a cowboy. Work that will take place out side of the

classroom includes the screening of two films, and working with the Beasley Multimedia Resource Center's professional staff to learn basic film production and post-production. This course requires significant reading and writing.

### **ENGL 085 Economic Saints and Villains: The Entrepreneurial Spirit in Early English Literature**

**TR 11:00-12:15 pm**

**LA, CI, NA, WB**

Ritchie Kendall

The rise of new economic activities--whether the birth of international banking, trading in future commodities, or the marketing of junk bonds--bring with them both excitement and trepidation. Literature about how people, both ordinary and extraordinary, go about the business of getting and spending is one way that a culture comes to terms with emergent and potentially revolutionary economic formations. This course will explore how early modern England from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries imagined new economic orders through plays and novels. After a brief prologue centered on Chaucer's representation of feudal men and women of business, we will examine how Renaissance plays by Marlowe, Shakespeare, Dekker, and Heywood present economic scoundrels such as Barabas and Shylock as well as heroic entrepreneurs such as Simon Eyre and Thomas Gresham. In the eighteenth century we will sample the work of Daniel Defoe who crafted a guide for early tradesmen but also produced subversive novels with dubious heroines who use sex and business acumen to acquire and lose great fortunes. From the nineteenth century, we will read two works, a little known melodrama, "The Game of Speculation," as well as the iconic "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. Both stories speculate on the compatibility of economic and spiritual success. We will conclude with a modern epilogue: three satiric films from the era of Reaganomics including Oliver Stone's "Wall Steet," Mike Nichols' "Working Girl," and Jon Landis' "Trading Places." Our objective throughout will be to analyze how literary art, itself a form of economic activity, simultaneously demonizes and celebrates the "miracle of the marketplace" and those financial pioneers that perform its magic.

### **ENGL 089 California Stories**

**MWF 2:00-2:50 pm**

**LA, CI**

Jennifer Ho

This course will focus on 20<sup>th</sup> century American narratives, specifically looking at stories that feature California in the literary imagination, particularly as the site and in some instances the catalyst of social change. As the golden state, California has been used in all aspects of narrative—from setting to plot device to character development. As such, we will explore the trope of "California" and particularly how California has influenced people as an agent of social change through a range of inter-disciplinary texts, which will include but are not limited to Mary Austin's nature writings, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Love of the Last Tycoon*, John Steinbeck's *East of Eden*, Vikram Seth's *The Golden Gate*, Anna Deveare Smith's *Twilight: Los Angeles*, and Cynthia Fujikawa's *Old Man River*.

### **GEOG 056 Local Places in a Globalizing World**

**M 2:00-4:30 pm**

**SS, GL**

Altha Cravey

How do international and global processes affect local places? Is it possible for local people to affect global processes? In this seminar, we examine the relationship between globalization and localization in order to think about how we--as individuals and groups--make a difference in the world. Examining cultural, economic and political dynamics, we will consider how local North Carolina communities are linked to other places in the world. How were global connections established and maintained? What individuals and groups were involved and has this changed over time? What challenges and opportunities accompany these distant connections? Students in the class engage basic social theoretic concepts that have been used to understand globalization

and transnationalism. We also examine Latina/o migration in North Carolina (and the US) and think about ways migration may challenge (or confirm) some of the concepts and theories.

### **GEOG 058 Making Myth-leading Memories: Landscapes of Remembrance**

**MWF 10:00-10:50 am**

**SS**

Stephen Birdsall

Geography's primary interests include the study of the interactions between humans and the environments in which they live. For example, when a person or an event is thought by society to be especially significant and valued, ways are often sought to sustain what is valued by preserving in the landscape the memory of the person or event. This course will consider memorial landscapes that are created from the impulse to retain some value symbolized by the person or event memorialized. We know, however, that memories can be complex and change over time. How a memorial landscape is interpreted can also change in complex ways. We will ask: What is preserved in memorial landscapes? Are some memorials more successful than others? Can one evaluate this kind of success? What does a memorial tell us about the society that created it, and what does it tell us about ourselves if the memorial's meaning has changed? What can we learn by thinking about memorials that were never created?

### **GEOL 073 Global Climate Change and Global Warming: The Science and the History**

**MWF 10:00-10:50 am**

**PL**

Jose Rial

Global warming is the most important environmental problem of the 21st century. The international scientific community agrees that the world today is significantly warmer than it was a century ago and that drastic climatic change will be common in the 21st century. This seminar explores the geologic history of global warming, its physical principles and the prospects for the future on the basis of the interpretation of its history as recorded in deep sea sediments, ice cores, tree rings and other important proxies. The students will learn to interpret these data and extrapolate them to the near future, for the world and for North Carolina. Students will discuss and debate the economic, social and political aspects of global warming, and how ours and other advanced societies are coping with the problem.

### **GEOL074: Geology of Climate Change**

**TR 9:00-10:15 am**

**PL**

D. M. Surge

Climate change, whether natural or induced by man, is an environmental process that must be dealt with in the 21st century. The purpose of this freshman seminar is to examine the problem of natural versus human-induced climate change through the 'prism' of geology and Earth history. The geologic record provides examples of the effects of past climate change from which we can learn what to expect in the future. This course will explore the evidence for past climate changes and ecological responses.

### **GERM 053 Early Germanic Culture: Myth, Magic, Murder, and Mayhem**

**TR 2:00-3:15 pm**

**HS, NA, WB**

Paul Roberge

This seminar is an introduction to the culture of the Germanic-language areas of northwestern Europe (Germany, Scandinavia, Anglo-Saxon England) from the Middle and Late Roman Empire (100-476 CE) through the Viking Age (traditionally 973-1066 CE). We shall study creation myths and mythic heroes as well examine as the nature of myth (as explanatory stories). From a specimen of sagas, poems, and historical documents (supplemented by inscriptions and charms), we shall explore political and legal structures, the use and abuse of power, gender roles, feuding,

the ethos of might-makes-right, and expansionism (e.g., Viking exploration and settlement of North America). All texts are in Modern English translation. Class meetings will focus on analysis of readings, with the instructor providing the historical backdrop. Student will take turns preparing study questions and leading class discussion. Students will also research topics that are germane to the readings and present their findings orally to the members of the seminar.

### **GERM 054 Once Upon a Fairy Tale: Fairy Tales and Childhood, Then and Now**

**TR 2:00-3:15 pm**

**LA, NA**

Eric Downing

This course will study fairy tales drawn from a number of different national traditions and historical periods against the backdrop of folklore, literature, psychoanalysis, and the socializing forces directed at children. We will also address issues such as varying historical conceptions of the child and the role of adults in shaping fairy tales for the child's instruction. We will investigate the evolution of specific tale types; the gender roles at play in fairy tales; and potential strategies for the reinterpretation and rewriting of fairy tales. Tales from Disney, the Brothers Grimm, Hans Christian Anderson, Charlotte Brontë, and more!

### **GERM 089 Performing America: Theater and Performance in Our Time**

**MWF 12:00-12:50 pm**

**VP, CI**

Christina Wegel

The intersection of performance in theater and in everyday life will serve as our springboard as we investigate the diversity of contemporary America. We will shine light on how race, class, religion, gender, sexuality, sexual orientation, history, life, and death are performed in America today. Topics for discussion will include: What is the contemporary state of theater? What is the nature of performances? What are the roles of actors and spectators? To this end, we will also attend performances at UNC to gain a better understanding of the relation between the theater space and the theory behind theater and performance studies. Students will also produce a short film that shows the audience their creative approach to Kenji Yoshino's book *Covering*.

### **HIST 064 Gorbachev, the Collapse of the Soviet Empire, and the Rise of the New Russia**

**\*\*\*\*\*CANCELLED\*\*\*\*\***

**HS, BN**

Donald Raleigh

In 1987 Time Magazine named him "Person of the Year." In 1990 he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in ending the Cold War. How and why did a peasant lad from southern Russia come to rule the world's largest country and empire? Why did his revolution of perestroika, glasnost, and democratization, meant to revitalize the Communist system, result in the collapse of the Soviet empire and its breakup into fifteen successor states? This course will examine the extraordinary individual associated with these developments, and the astonishing transformations that took place while he was in power between 1985 and 1991. It will explore post-Soviet Russia's efforts at negotiating a new set of relations with the rest of the world and how post-Cold-War-Russia continues to shape our own destiny. Then it will consider how the Soviet experience both constrains and enables efforts to establish a democratic political system and a market economy in a world burdened with the threat of terrorism.

### **HIST 089 Faith and Violence in the Middle Ages**

**TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm**

**HS, WB**

Brett Whalen

Medieval Christians were well aware that Christ's message in the Gospel was often framed in terms of peace and peace-making. In some circumstances, however, Christian thinkers of Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages confronted violence directed against them as a result of their faith (sometimes facing martyrdom). In other situations, Christians advocated violence as a means to

defend and even spread their faith (the crusades provide the most famous example of this phenomenon). This course will explore intersections of faith and violence in the Christian tradition from around the years 300-1300. In particular, it will examine mainstream Christian attitudes toward non-Christians (pagans, Jews, Muslims) and non-orthodox groups (heretics).

### **MASC 052 Living with Our Oceans and Atmosphere**

**TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm**

**PL**

John M. Bane

This course will introduce the student to the nature of the Earth's oceans and atmosphere, with emphasis on understanding the processes that lead to our weather patterns, ocean circulations and global climate. Modern theories of weather and severe weather events, oceanic hazards, ocean-atmosphere interactions, and oceanic and atmospheric changes that are linked to increasing human activity will be studied. Examples of presently active research being conducted at UNC and other institutions will be used to highlight how the above topics are investigated scientifically. Study materials will be taken from: introductory meteorology and oceanography textbooks; modern articles in periodicals such as Scientific American, Nature, American Scientist, and Weatherwise; numerous websites, including those within the UNC Department of Marine Sciences; and video presentations. Classroom presentations will be made by the professor and by each student. A field trip to the North Carolina coast will be conducted.

### **MASC 053 The Ends of the Earth: Polar Exploration and Oceanography**

**TR 12:30-1:45 pm**

**PL**

Carol Arnosti

What explains the pull of the Poles? What motivated early explorers to undergo great hardships to investigate the Arctic and Antarctic, and what did they discover about these regions? What have we discovered in the intervening decades, and what do we still not understand about polar regions? Why do the Arctic and Antarctic play such a critical role in global climate? This seminar will combine scientific and historical perspectives to investigate the ends of the earth, the Arctic and Antarctica. We will begin by surveying the geography and oceanography of these regions, and then step back into the past and follow in the footsteps of some of the early polar explorers by reading their own accounts of their explorations. Modern accounts will help us compare and contrast these early explorations. The seminar will also include readings and discussions about current questions and problems of the polar regions, in particular human impacts and potential effects of global warming. Class discussions, short writing assignments, a term paper, and group presentations will be used to hone critical thinking and communication skills, and to help develop both scientific and historical understanding of these unique regions of the earth.

### **MATH 058 Math and Art: Symmetry without Fear**

**TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm**

**QI**

Mark McCombs

*Math, Art and the Humanities: We All Do the Math*

This course is designed to engage students in an exploration of the relevance of mathematical ideas to fields typically perceived as "non-mathematical" (e.g. art, music, film, literature). Equally important will be an exploration of how these "non-mathematical" fields, in turn, influence mathematical thought. In each case, course activities and assignments have been designed to illuminate the fact that even the most complex mathematical concepts grow out of real people's attempts to understand better their world. By the end of the course, students should be able to

- Identify and assess how mathematical ideas influence and are influenced by ideas expressed through art, music, literature, religion, etc
- Compare and contrast different philosophies concerning the nature of mathematics
- Articulate their own well-reasoned ideas concerning the nature of mathematics

- Discuss the evolution of fundamental mathematical concepts in a historical as well as a cultural context
- Discuss the work and lives of important mathematicians in relation to the “non-mathematical” work of their contemporaries
- Identify and assess how their own understanding of mathematical ideas influences the way they interact with the world

Course assignments and activities will include:

- Weekly readings and short homework writing assignments (2–3 paragraphs)
- One longer paper (8–10 pages)
- Projects/presentations exploring course topics

### **MATH 067 The Mathematics of Climate Change: Can we predict the Future of our Planet?**

**TR 2:00-3:15 pm**

**PL, CI, QI, GL**

Chris Jones

There is widespread agreement in the scientific community that the Earth is warming. But, do we know when critical benchmarks will be reached? Planning and policy-making demand predictions of future climate change and even specific climate events. But, how reliable are those predictions? The predictions are based largely on mathematical models of the “Earth system” in varying degrees of complexity. But, there are untold assumptions and estimations being fed into these models, so can we rely on their results? Even if we made extraordinarily good approximations to the input of these models, we know from our understanding of chaos in dynamical systems that small changes can lead to drastically different outcomes. Is it then even possible to make predictions about the future climate? While background on climate change will be covered in this course, the emphasis will be on the issues surrounding predictability of climate events and changes. We shall consider the limitations of mathematical models in relation to making predictions. Elementary examples of chaotic behavior will be presented and we will compare deterministic and statistical models in the context of the environment. Ways of measuring and presenting uncertainty using statistical estimators will be discussed. This is an exciting scientific area where applied mathematics and statistics come together with many scientific areas in an exposed political context that is of enormous importance to us all. There is plenty of room for different viewpoints and deep thinking about how mathematics can contribute. Considerable time will be given to open discussions in class. There will be weekly readings and each week a student will be expected to present a synopsis of the readings as part of the course requirement. Further, the students will each conduct a project related to the topic and report on it at the end of the semester.

### **PHIL 066 Ethics: Theoretical & Practical Issues**

**TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm**

**PH**

Thomas E. Hill, Jr.

This seminar aims to encourage students to think seriously and clearly about ethical problems by means of class discussion, group research projects, and examination of philosophical and literary works. Theoretical issues to be considered include relativism, utilitarianism, deontological ethics, and virtue ethics. Practical issues may include abortion, substance abuse, treatment of animals and the environment, and sex, love, and marriage.

### **PHIL 067 Issues in a World Society: Sports and Competition**

**TR 9:30-10:45 am**

**PH**

Jan Boxill

The fascination with sports is global, as we saw in the Beijing Olympics. Sports play a significant role in the lives of millions of people throughout the world, as participants, fans, spectators, and critics. Sport also provides a unique model for understanding our own society as well as other societies in the world. Because sports are significant forms of social activities, they raise a wide

range of issues, some factual, some explanatory, some conceptual. Conceptual questions ask how we understand the concepts and ideas that apply to the world of sports. What are sports? What is involved in competition? Is there too much emphasis on winning and competition? Are college sports getting out of hand? Indeed do competitive athletics belong on campus? This course will examine these and other ethical issues in sports, including, but not limited to, Title IX, gender equity, racism, sexism, cheating, violence, and drug use. My concern will be to gain an understanding of the moral significance of sport through readings and class discussion.

**PHYS 053 Handcrafting in the Nanoworld: Building Models and Manipulating Molecules**  
**TR 9:30-10:45 am**

**PL**

Michael Falvo

What is nanotechnology anyway? Scientists of all stripes are now actively exploring the wonderful and bizarre world of the nanoscale (one nanometer equals one billionth of a meter). This is the scale of molecules, DNA, carbon nanotubes and a host of other fascinating nano-objects. At this scale, nature has different rules, some of which are beautiful and unexpected. Scientists have only begun to learn these rules. We have also only begun applying this new knowledge to technology. Can we make computers using single molecule transistors? How do viruses and other bio systems "assemble" themselves? Can we build molecular machines that cure disease or clean up the environment? In looking at these questions, we will try to distinguishing the true promise of nanoscience from the hype. We will study the strange objects and properties of the nanoworld through class discussion and hands-on activities that include model building (with model kits, Lego etc.), scientific journal composition, and actual nanoscale experiments.

**PLAN 052 (WMST 51) Race, Sex and Place in America**

**TR 8:00-9:15 am**

**SS**

Michelle Berger

This first year seminar will expose students to the complex dynamics of race, ethnicity, and gender and how these have shaped the American city since 1945. It will examine both the historical record as well as contemporary works of literature, film and music to probe the ways race, sex, and ethnicity have contributed to the culture of our cities and popular perceptions of urban life in the United States. It will also explore the different ways women and men perceive, understand, occupy and use urban space and the built environment. Drawing upon the scholarship of several disciplines (sociology, political science, urban planning, women's studies, and American history), the seminar will examine a broad spectrum of topics, including ghettoization and the inner city; the Harlem Renaissance and its influence; "redlining" and restrictive covenants; suburbanization, "white flight" and the "urban crisis" of the 1960s; big city mayoral politics; immigration and ethnic enclaving; the rise of urban nightlife; gangs; graffiti and tagging; the multiple meanings of "the hood" and "the ghetto" hip hop culture and its popular dissemination; the origins and transformation of vice districts such as New York's 42nd Street; the politics of gentrification; and the impacts of globalization on the inner city.

**PLAN 055 Sustainable Cities**

**TR 9:30-10:45 am**

**SS**

Todd BenDor

This seminar examines the sustainability of cities and regions. A sustainable community is one in which new development improves the quality of life of people in the community while preserving environmental functions. We will look at how cities have evolved over the past millennia and how the present approaches to property rights and urban development have affected the ecological, economic, and social elements of sustainability, as well as the quality of life in America. We will critically examine a vision for more sustainable places, and we will look at actions that can be taken by citizens, businesses, and governments to help improve sustainability. By the end of this course, students will understand what constitutes a sustainable urban community and be able to

articulate the major threats to sustainable development. Students will also have developed a sound base of knowledge about the validity, effectiveness, feasibility, strengths and weaknesses of various strategies and methods for fostering sustainability.

### **PLAN 058 Global Production and Workers' Rights: North Carolina, Latin America, and East Asia**

\*\*\*\*\*CANCELLED\*\*\*\*\*

**SS, GL**

Meenu Tewari

This course explores the politics of economic globalization, with a focus on the relationships among trade, multinational corporations, and workers' rights.

### **PLAN 089 Technology and the Metropolis**

**T 2:00-5:00 pm**

**HS, NA**

Thomas J. Campanella

The seminar explores the nexus between technology, urban culture, and the form and structure of cities. We will examine key technological advancements in transportation, urban infrastructure, building technology, and telecommunications, seeking to understand the ways each altered existing patterns of metropolitan development, or opened up whole new possibilities for urban form. We will also investigate the impacts of certain technologies on perceptions of the urban environment and on the character and quality of urban life. Among the topics considered are the role of the railroad, omnibus, and streetcar on urban expansion and suburban growth; the role of world's fairs and amusement parks in showcasing technologies of an imagined urban future; electrical illumination and the end of urban night; the automobile and expressway as agents of urban decentralization; the "vertiginous city" of skyscrapers and its enabling technologies (elevator, telephone, steel-frame construction); the synoptic perspective on the urban landscape made possible by mechanized flight; and the Cold War threat of nuclear annihilation and the "urban dispersal movement" it inspired. We will conclude with two sessions exploring the implications of cyberspace and digital communications technology on cities and urban life, and consider the prospects and problems inherent in "virtual urbanism."

### **PLCY 055H The Crisis of the University: Academic Values and Policy Choice**

**TR 9:30-10:45 am**

**SS**

David Dill

First year students enrolling in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill become members of a distinctive institution--a research university--whose policies and practices are informed by a unique set of norms and beliefs that have been evolving since the twelfth century. The goal of the seminar is to introduce students to these core values through an analysis of university history, case discussions of university policy issues, a computer simulation of university decision-making, and the writing of an original case study on a contemporary policy issue confronting research universities. Topics will include policies on admissions, academic curricula, student grading, faculty promotion and tenure, academic freedom, and the social responsibilities of the university. Student assessments will include an in-class exam, a team competition, and a case study project.

### **PLCY 070 National Policy: Who Sets the Agenda?**

**TR 2:00-3:15 pm**

**SS, CI, NA**

Hodding Carter

The United States is governed by democratically elected leaders. According to theory, they both represent the people and lead them, setting and implementing policies to further prosperity and justice at home and security abroad. But who and what actually sets the nation's policy agenda? The President? Congress? The media? Special interests? Dramatic and unexpected events—9/11, for example—or carefully calibrated long-term plans? Variable public opinion or inflexible

ideological zeal? These are some of the questions with which we will wrestle in a freshman seminar that will combine close attention to current events and policies with a deeper look at specific case histories drawn from the past three decades.

Each student will be required to take fact-based positions and defend them publicly. We will be reading extensively and writing regularly. There will be no "right" positions required in this course, but intellectual rigor and an open mind will be prerequisites.

### **PLCY 089.001 Reforming America's High Schools**

**MW 3:30-4:45 pm**

**SS**

Gary Henry

With graduation rates for many high schools below 50 percent and proficiencies in mathematics and science often below 60, the statistics paint a clear picture of the need for high school reform in the U.S. Minorities and students living in poverty fare much worse than the "average" students. In this course, we will examine the evidence concerning the main problems that are occurring in America's high schools. After assessing the problems, we will examine three popular reform strategies: (1) increasing resources, such as more funding or better teachers; (2) improving leadership and teacher working conditions; and (3) structural reforms, including smaller high schools and specialty schools. Students will hear from high school reformers and develop a reform proposal for a high school in North Carolina.

### **PLCY 089.002 Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Economic Growth**

**2:00-4:50 pm**

**SS**

Maryann P. Feldmann

This seminar provides an introduction to entrepreneurship and innovation, and considers their relationship to economic growth. The focus is on historical examples of entrepreneurs who created enduring innovations, emphasizing the context that set the stage for the innovation, the strategy employed by the entrepreneur, and the public policies and infrastructure that supported the opportunity and the growth of the enterprise. The course will draw upon the case studies to provide an introduction to concepts used in the study of innovation and entrepreneurship.

The objective is to recognize the potential of new technologies, changes in consumer taste and the external environment as economic opportunities. The course emphasizes entrepreneurs as part of a larger societal system that both determines what is possible and also changes in response to entrepreneurial actions. The role of public policy in providing incentives for entrepreneurship and innovation and setting social priorities is discussed throughout the historical examples.

### **POLI 055 Democracy and the Civic Ideal**

**TR 8:00-9:15 am**

**BN**

Steve Leonard

What is the 'best' kind of government? Nearly everyone agrees that 'democracy' is the answer. Simple enough – until we start debating about what makes democracy good, and what democracies have to do to realize their hopes and aspirations. Since the days of the first democracies in ancient Greece, popular government was thought to require active and regular participation from citizens, yet today very few people actually bother to fulfill their civic duties. And that is where this seminar begins. Our question for the semester is: does democracy require good citizenship, and what is good citizenship, anyway? We will review the arguments past and present, exercise our civic sensibilities in simulations, debates, and historical reenactments, and test ourselves by trying to make sense of 'citizenship' in texts, art, and film.

### **POLI 058 Global Production and Workers' Rights: North Carolina, Latin America and East Asia**

**W 3:00-5:50 pm**

**SS, GL**

T. Oatley

This course explores the politics of economic globalization, with a focus on the relationships among trade, multinational corporations, and workers' rights. We consider how industries in North Carolina (textiles, furniture, and technology) have been impacted by the relocation of production (both to and from North Carolina), and the politics surrounding trade and investment policy in the state. We then compare North Carolina's experience with that of two regions and industries in the developing world -- the textile sector in Mexico (and elsewhere in Latin America) and the technology sector in China (and elsewhere in Asia). The course begins with an overview of the economic rationale for trade and foreign direct investment, as well as review of trends in trade openness and multinational production. It then suggests several ways in which economic globalization can lead to political mobilization, both for and against greater openness. We spend the remainder of the course considering three cases of the globalization of production, with an eye toward understanding how economic transformation in North Carolina compares with the transformations taking place elsewhere in the world, and what the benefits (and costs) of such transformations are. No background in economics is necessary.

**POLI 067 Designing Democracy: Introduction to World Politics: Conflict, Democracy, and State Building**

**W 3:00-5:50 pm**

**SS**

Andrew Reynolds

Introducing the study of using political institutions as levers of conflict management in ethnically plural, post-conflict national states. To highlight the issues that lie behind constitutional design attention will be focused on ongoing and historical cases. These states will be analyzed in terms of their paths toward democracy, the nature of their internal conflict, and the types of political institutions they have (or are) adopting.

Key to the class will be the student's focus on their own case study of a democratizing state -- In the Spring 2009 we will focus on four African states. The class will be briefed on the core 'building block' choices that go into a new constitution and the importance of rooting institutions in the distinct historical and socio-political characteristics of a nation. Through lectures, videos, and discussions we shall investigate how nations can seek to transform violent conflict into democratic debate.

**PSYC 056 Human Infancy: The Emergence of Mind in the Human Infant**

**MWF 10:00-10:50 am**

**SS**

J. Steven Reznick

The overall goals of this course are to describe what we know about the psychological development of human infants, to evaluate the procedures that have given rise to that knowledge, and to explore the implications of the knowledge. These goals will be accomplished in the context of focusing on a specific question: At what point in human development does it seem appropriate to assume that the infant has a mind? We will address this question by first exploring a definition of what it means to say that something has a mind and then examining research on neural development, behavioral abilities, and adult interactions with infants of various ages. Class discussion will be based primarily on readings and videos but this information will be supplemented with the direct experience that each student will get by working a few hours each week with infants in a day care center located near campus.

**PSYC 061 Drug Addiction: Fact and Fiction**

**M 3:00-5:20 pm**

**PL, CI**

Rita Fuchs Lokensgard

This course will focus on the following interesting questions related to drug addiction: Are media depictions of drug addiction accurate? What are the beneficial and harmful psychological and physiological effects of marijuana (THC), heroin, cocaine, nicotine, alcohol, LSD, magic mushrooms (psilocybin), and ecstasy (MDMA)? What has scientific research revealed about the brain on drugs? Are drug-associated objects and places important in the addiction process? Do most users become addicts? How does our conceptualization of addiction influence treatment and policy development? Has the "war on drugs" been successful? We will tackle these questions through classroom discussions, lectures, guest lectures, movies, writing assignments, and a visit to a research lab and a treatment facility.

### **PWAD 085 (SLAV 85) Children and War**

**TR 12:30-1:45 pm**

**LA**

Madeline Levine

Children are the most innocent victims of war. They are affected both physically and psychologically. We will explore, through fictionalized autobiographies and through a number of films, how children experienced World War II in Eastern Europe and in East Asia, and how their experiences can be conveyed to us today. Readings will be in English, of course. Seminar participants will also have an opportunity through group projects to focus on contemporary conflicts in which children have been particularly victimized.

### **RELI 063 The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls**

**TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm**

**HS, WB**

Jodi Magness

In this seminar students learn about the Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient manuscripts dating to the time of Jesus from caves around the site of Qumran by the Dead Sea. They include early copies of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) and sectarian works belonging to the Jewish community that lived in Qumran.

### **ROML 056 Italians in Search of Harmony**

**TR 9:30-10:45 pm**

**LA**

Ennio Rao

This course explores the concept of harmony in selected Italian writers, from Dante to contemporary poets and novelists. In the fourteenth century Dante dreamed of a universal empire that would assure peace on earth, thus allowing mankind to pursue knowledge and wisdom and to achieve the ultimate harmony in the next world: the natural reunion of creature and creator. Dante himself directs his readers to interpret the journey of the pilgrim in the /Divine Comedy /as Everyman's quest for transcendental harmony with God. A generation later, Petrarch's mind is a battlefield in the constant struggle between flesh and spirit, the sacred and the profane. His /Secretum (The Secret) /and /Canzoniere /are eloquent records of the wavering fortunes of the ongoing internal war. In the eighteenth century, the poet Giacomo Leopardi, who harbored a sensitive soul in a misshapen body, vainly seeks love and harmony in a hostile universe. In his view, nature is an evil stepmother and life affords only fleeting moments of pleasure, pain being man's natural lot. In the twentieth century, the quest for harmony focuses on man's search for self-identity. Many Italian poets, novelists and film directors portray modern man as hopelessly alienated from his society and frantically seeking to establish a meaningful rapport with his fellow man. They expose and condemn hedonism, consumerism and egoism. Their heroes -- or antiheroes -- seek remedies to their painful state, wallowing in self-pity and sex; but a few find a successful formula.

### **ROML 060 Spanish and Entrepreneurship: Languages, Cultures, and North Carolina Communities**

**MWF 1:00-1:50 pm**

## **CI, EE**

Darcy Lear

How can social service agencies in North Carolina communities be made sustainable through the application of entrepreneurial principles? To answer that question, we will study the theory and practice of social entrepreneurship--a process of opportunity recognition, resource gathering, and value creation that can bring sustainability to a social mission. Using the critical thinking skills emphasized in the course, students will identify issues of social justice in North Carolina Latino communities and learn pertinent business skills that can help sustain endeavors to address those community problems. In this seminar, students experience rather than simply examine the bilingual and bicultural commercial and social enterprises that surround our campus by working in a local agency or business 2-3 hours each week. Through community service-learning, students apply all the knowledge and skills developed in the course.

## **SLAV 085 (PWAD 85) Children and War**

**TR 12:30-1:45 pm**

**LA**

Madeline Levine

Children are the most innocent victims of war. They are affected both physically and psychologically. We will explore, through fictionalized autobiographies and through a number of films, how children experienced World War II in Eastern Europe and in East Asia, and how their experiences can be conveyed to us today. Readings will be in English, of course. Seminar participants will also have an opportunity through group projects to focus on contemporary conflicts in which children have been particularly victimized.

## **SOCI 054 Good Jobs, Bad Jobs, No Job: Work in 21st Century America**

**TR 3:30-4:45 pm**

**SS**

Arne Kalleberg

Work is a core activity in society. It is a central life interest for many individuals, links persons to each other, and locates them within the stratification system. Work reveals much about the social order, how it is changing, and the kinds of problems and issues that people (and their governments) must address. Social, economic and political forces are transforming work in American society; these changes have produced major consequences for social institutions and individuals. To understand better these changes, we will examine the nature and meaning of work in the contemporary United States. We will seek to answer questions such as: What are the main changes that are currently taking place in work and jobs in the United States? Why are some jobs "good" and others "bad"? Why are some people able to get jobs that "fit" their needs and expectations while others are mismatched to their jobs? What explains the growth of temporary work and why do so many people work as temps? Why are so many companies downsizing their workforces? What is the impact of immigration on work? We will address these questions by reading books and articles, by class discussions and debates, by collecting information using the internet, and by interviewing workers and studying different kinds of jobs.

## **STOR 053 Networks: Degrees of Separation and Other Phenomena Relating to Connected Systems**

**TR 2:00-3:15 pm**

**QI**

Jon Tolle

Networks, mathematical structures that are composed of nodes and a set of lines joining the nodes, are used to model a wide variety of familiar systems: distribution networks such as electric power grids, anatomical networks such as neural systems, communication networks such as the world-wide web, and social networks representing relationships between cultural groups. These networks have distinct properties that help answer questions about the underlying system: How susceptible is a power grid to breakdown? How fast can a (computer or medical) virus spread and how can it best be contained? How do the type of connections among students affect the spread

of a fad or of political opinions? Questions of this type, suggested by the instructor and class members, will be posed and modeled by networks. Computer software will be provided that will allow the analysis of these questions. No computer programming experience will be required.

### **WMST 051 (PLAN 52) Race, Sex and Place in America**

**TR 8:00-9:15 am**

**SS**

Michelle Berger

This first year seminar will expose students to the complex dynamics of race, ethnicity, and gender and how these have shaped the American city since 1945. It will examine both the historical record as well as contemporary works of literature, film and music to probe the ways race, sex, and ethnicity have contributed to the culture of our cities and popular perceptions of urban life in the United States. It will also explore the different ways women and men perceive, understand, occupy and use urban space and the built environment. Drawing upon the scholarship of several disciplines (sociology, political science, urban planning, women's studies, and American history), the seminar will examine a broad spectrum of topics, including ghettoization and the inner city; the Harlem Renaissance and its influence; "redlining" and restrictive covenants; suburbanization, "white flight" and the "urban crisis" of the 1960s; big city mayoral politics; immigration and ethnic enclaving; the rise of urban nightlife; gangs; graffiti and tagging; the multiple meanings of "the hood" and "the ghetto" hip hop culture and its popular dissemination; the origins and transformation of vice districts such as New York's 42nd Street; the politics of gentrification; and the impacts of globalization on the inner city.

### **WMST 089 World Literature by Women**

**MW 6:00-7:15 pm**

**LA, CI, GL**

Tanya Shields

World Literature by Women engages with a girl's transition into womanhood by examining texts from around the world. Using close-reading strategies, students in this section focus on what it means to be a young woman in diverse cultural settings ranging from Trinidad and Tobago to Iran, the US, and Argentina. As we examine these female coming of age stories, we will explore "how" to read gender across cultures and how various constructions of gender norms affect the lives of girls, women, mothers, and daughters. The final multi-part ethnographic project asks students to relate the coming-of-age story of a woman at least 20 years her senior. Assignments include quizzes, close-reading exercises, midterm, and an ethnographic final.