

## Liberal Studies Electives for Fall 2014

**ART 100: Art History.** Through a survey of selected works, this course demonstrates the beauty and power of the Western heritage of visual arts and architecture. By studying examples of great art, students learn about the underlying values they express in various time periods. This course is presented through illustrated lectures and other media that augment the textbook. Field trips will supplement classroom learning.

**ART 110: Drawing.** This is a studio course in which the student will have supervised drawing practices under the direction of an artist-instructor. Using the most widely accepted approaches to drawing techniques, this course develops the student's talents and skills through extensive drawing and rendering exercises involving the human form, natural objects, landscape, and perspective.

**ART 121: Painting I.** The emphasis in this introductory course is on the fundamental skills of manipulation and observation necessary in acrylic media. Painting problems are paralleled with a study of color, texture, and forms as they apply to the work of beginning painters.

**ART 230: Art in America.** This course examines the major trends in painting, sculpture, domestic and commercial architecture, and the decorative arts in America from the Colonial Period through the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Study includes artistic trends in the Colonial North and South, the evolution of style during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, and trends and innovations during the 20th century. Social and cultural history, including folk art and the gilded age as reflected in the arts, will be stressed. Field trips will highlight the course.

**CHI 100: Elementary Mandarin Chinese I.** This course covers the basics of Mandarin Chinese – spoken, written and read. Development of language skills is combined with an introduction to Chinese culture and history. Students will also gain insight into China's contemporary culture and international business environment.

**ENG 210: Children's Literature.** This course provides the opportunity to study literary concepts and purposes in writings designed primarily for, but not confined to, young minds. The heritage of children's literature is considered in relation to selected representative works, both traditional and recent. Also considered are the uses, presentation, and critical evaluation of children's literature from a multi-cultural, nonsexist and international perspective. This course addresses English standards for teachers in early childhood and elementary education: children's and young adult literature, and genres, literary elements, and literary techniques. *Prerequisite: ENG 122*

**ENG 221: American Literature.** This course is designed to acquaint students with major American writers and literary movements. The course helps students deepen their understanding of American literary works by relating them to their historical backgrounds. The course offers students practice identifying, analyzing, and applying knowledge of literary elements, structures, and themes in American myths, fiction, literary nonfiction, and poetry. *Prerequisite: ENG 122*

**ENG 265: The Legend of King Arthur.** This course examines the growth and development of the legends surrounding King Arthur from their beginning and blossoming in Europe through their adaptations in the modern era. Students will read Arthurian texts originally written in languages such as Latin, Welsh, Middle English, Old French, medieval Spanish, Provencal, Medieval Italian, Middle High German, Old Norse, and Hebrew, as well as modern English and Japanese, comparing and discussing changes in the cultural ideals represented, the literary techniques employed, and the characterizations adopted.

**FRN 113: French Language & Culture I.** The first course in the French language and culture sequence concentrates on learning basic French through constant speaking, reading, writing, and small group communicative activities in the target language. Students read examples of children's literature in order to encounter French as it is taught to young native speakers. The course also incorporates French culture with study devoted to the social life, art, literature, and film of the French people.

**GOV 100: American Government.** This course provides an understanding of the function of the American national government. The development of the Constitution and the American political system are considered in the light of contemporary economic, social, and technological conditions.

**HIS 114: The United States to 1877.** This course is a topical and chronological survey of American history from the time of European settlement through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Emphasis will be placed on historical methodology, interpretive skills, and oral and written expression. Topics to be covered include the impact of settlement on native peoples, slavery, the development of American identity, the creation of an independent government, and the threat posed by the Civil War.

**HIS 115: the United States since 1877.** This course is a topical and chronological survey of American history from the end of Reconstruction to the present. Heavy emphasis will be placed on the discipline of history, and in developing interpretive, oral, and written skills. Topics to be covered include the emergence of Jim Crow, the expansion of America, the Gilded Age, reform movements, America at War, the Depression and New Deal, the Cold War, the turbulent 1960's, social movements, recent political developments, and the role of the United States in a multinational/multi-ethnic world.

**HIS 202: Global History to 1500.** This course surveys the origins, development, and cross-fertilization of major civilizations in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas from pre-history to 1500 A.D. Attention is given to important themes and human achievements in this early time period, including the agricultural revolution, the rise of cities, kingdoms, and empires, the development of writing, the systematization of religious belief systems, and the development of complex forms of government among various societies. The course encourages students to critically analyze developments in human history, such as advances in technology for making war, treatment of women, notions of superior and inferior societies and civilizations, differing political and philosophical systems, and the ways in which societies have historically distributed, used, and abused power.

**HIS 255: Native American History.** This course covers major themes and issues in the history of red/white contact in the Americas from the arrival of Columbus to present. Students examine the American experience as it has been lived by our red citizens over time. Because it is impossible to recount the individual stories of some 500 different tribal cultures, the course exposes students to speeches, texts, images, and films of representative tribes from coast to coast in the territory that has become the United States. Core themes of war and peace, "savage" and "civilization," religion and spirituality, and "destruction of" vs. "harmony with" nature bring the course to life in ways that are not only relevant but urgently needed for meaningful understanding of the daunting challenges that America faces in the world today.

**HIS 260: The Holocaust.** This course focuses on the Perpetrators, Beneficiaries, Bystanders and the Victims of the Nazi genocidal effort against Europe's Jewish population and others that Hitler regarded as a threat to his Bocratic Vision. The unique role of Adolf Hitler and the assorted professors and professionals who made such mass murder possible will be explored in detail. In addition, the increasing understanding of the tremendous support Hitler enjoyed with women in particular, and the German population in general, will be thoroughly examined and considered. Special attention will be devoted to the reaction of the United States, Great Britain, and other European countries to the growing evidence of the widespread nature of Hitler's Final Solution to the Jewish Question as World War II raged on.

**HIS 273: One America.** One America is a unique experience in which students take a special topics course in the Fall and learn about a region in America and its impact on American society, and then visit that region in January, before the start of Spring semester, during an exciting 7-day journey. Cultural and community service experiences are integrated into this trip.

**HUM 101: Fine and Performing Arts.** This course highlights significant aspects of music, theatre, dance, and art. Specific musical compositions, art works, and theatre pieces will be explored as expressions of historical events and changing values. Off-campus activities, such as a play, a concert, and museum exhibit, extend the classroom experience.

**HUM 210: Ethics.** Ethics is a branch of philosophy which asks “What ought we do?” It challenges us to think critically, assess knowledge, and form criteria for making personal decisions as well as decisions which shape community and national standards of action. Ethics affects real decisions, real people, in the real world. In this course we will investigate the field of ethics from a multicultural and international perspective. Students will start with basic ethical theories and proceed to use these theories to learn about and evaluate some of the major ethical issues in the world on topics such as poverty, justice, war, rights, discrimination, etc.

**MLA 101: Sign Language I.** An entry level course in American Sign Language designed to introduce functional communication skills. The focus is learning to exchange personal information in a culturally appropriate way. Instruction will focus on a variety of major language functions in an interactive context; both expressive and receptive skills will be emphasized. Attention will be given to language acquisition, cultural awareness, grammatical rules/facial expression and finger spelling.

**SPA 113: Spanish Language & Culture I.** This first course in the Spanish language sequence, is designed to develop basic skills in oral expression, aural comprehensions, reading writing, and grammar. Course learning activities also introduce students to beginning levels of conversation, composition, and cultural understanding in the target language.

**THR 211: Acting I.** This is a performance course designed to familiarize the student with the basic techniques of the craft of acting. Students are provided an opportunity to develop acting skills through pantomime, improvisation, and traditional methods based on a technique approach. For the student not interested in following an acting career, this course enables her to develop evaluation standards for performances and an appreciation and understanding of the theatre experience.