

NU-Q Spring 2022 Course Descriptions

Communication/MIT Courses

Journalism Courses

Liberal Arts Courses

Communication/MIT Courses

GEN CMN 201-0 Research Methods in Communication Studies

This course introduces students to the basic research concepts, methods, and tools used to design, conduct, and interpret studies in communication and other fields. We will examine both quantitative and qualitative approaches, including experiments, surveys/interviews, ethnography, field research and content analysis. The course investigates the basic process common to investigations of a variety of research questions from the communication field. Students will become critical and informed research consumers, developing proficiency at evaluating research. Additionally, students will learn how to design an original study to answer a research question.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun

Prerequisites: None

- Required for MIT sophomores
- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

INTERDIS 204-0 Film and Design Collaborative NEW

This course increases student awareness and practical experience of the principles of visual storytelling in traditional and emerging media technologies and develop their understanding of filmmaking from a design perspective and design from a filmmaking perspective. The course is divided into four phases and students working on a film project collaboratively. The course is co-produced by NU-Q and VCUArts Qatar.

Instructor(s): Rana Kazkaz & Johan Granberg

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- MIT Technical-Practical Course
- Students may register with the instructor's permission
- Instructor permission is required; students should write to the instructor for permission to register at: rana.kazkaz@northwestern.edu

MIT 143-0 Acting: Basic Techniques

This course introduces the process of storytelling through acting exercises grounded in observation, imagination, and improvisation. Coursework focuses on perceiving, studying, and recreating human behavior for the purpose of developing stronger stage presence and becoming a more effective communicator. The basic principles of acting are important for communication, storytelling, and performance skills any career choice, on stage and in life.

Instructor(s): Genta Retkoceri

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- MIT Technical-Practical Course

MIT 190-0 Media Construction

In this introductory production course, students explore the technical and theoretical elements of media construction: storytelling, sound, image and editing. Building upon the aesthetic and narrative concepts introduced in MIT 220, this class will introduce the challenges and opportunities created by filming and editing sync-sound material. Basic camera, lighting, audio, and non-linear editing labs will be combined with regular discussions and lectures.

Instructor(s): Rana Kazkaz, Miriam Berg, Joao Queiroga, Rami Al-Badry & Marcela Pizarro

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students only

MIT 260-0 Foundations of Screenwriting

Students learn tools to expand and enrich their appreciation of all aspects of screenwriting to prepare for entering the professional world. Through practice, students (1) learn all the elements of screenwriting; (2) discover how core concepts interact within existing and emerging media forms, and (3) explore films and topics to produce an original script.

Instructor(s): Dana Atrach

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only
- MIT Technical-Practical Course

MIT 298-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Children's Television NEW

The course explores the history of children's television and media from a critical perspective from the 1950s to the present in both educational and entertaining content. Although American programs are the main object of study, students will investigate children's television outside the U.S. and compare children's media reception practices in Western and non-Western contexts.

Instructor(s): Kirsten Pike

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 312-0 History of Film

This course surveys the global film history from the 1890s to the present, examining national industrial, social, and historical contexts within which films were produced and viewed as theories of cinema emerged alongside them. Students are introduced to key international trends in making and thinking about cinema and learn about the distant foundations upon which contemporary film culture rests.

Instructor(s): Scott Curtis

Prerequisites: MIT 220-0

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and Politics Minor

MIT 322-0 Radio/Television/Film Genre: History of Animation

This course surveys the history of animation from the 1900s to the present to understand its pervasive presence in contemporary visual culture. It covers influential cultural institutions from the silent era to the present to understand animation history and its connection to folklore in Africa, the Middle East, North America, and South Asia.

Instructor(s): Scott Curtis

Prerequisites: MIT 220-0

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration

MIT 349-0 Internship

This course provides structure and guidance for MIT majors completing professional internships for credit. Weekly seminars cover organizational and behavioral issues such as organizational cultures, teamwork, generational differences, workplace strategies, work-life balance, ethics and soft skills. Students discuss readings and events in the job sites, share progress reports, and discuss questions and concerns about their work experiences.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above, MIT majors only
- Students may register for 1-4 units with the instructor's permission
- Instructor permission is required; students should write to the instructor for permission to register at: s-dun@northwestern.edu

MIT 353-0 Arab Television Industries

This course examines Arab television industries through assorted lenses organized around historical periods, geographic locations, popular genres, significant milestones, and changing media technologies. Readings, lectures, videos, case studies, and presentations help students develop understanding of Arab television history to assess its various functions addressed as manifestations of political, cultural, social, and economic transformations. The course addresses digital transformation.

Instructor(s): Joe Khalil

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media & Politics Minor & Middle East Studies Minor

MIT 360-0 Topics in Media Writing: Writing the TV Series

Students learn the process of writing a television series by exploring key craft elements in story structure, plot, scene development, character, theme, genre, and dialogue to grip an audience's emotions. Students create and evaluate story ideas; understand how characters drive the plot; craft compelling plots and subplots; and construct scenes. Exercises facilitate developing a multi-episode series and series bible.

Instructor(s): Dana Atrach

Prerequisites: MIT 260-0

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only
- MIT Technical-Practical Course

MIT 376-0 Topics in Interactive Media: Mobile Game Design

Technical-practical, hands-on introduction to mobile game design. Grounded in history, theory. Project-based learning approach. Covers such topics as: picking the right engine, building a cross-functional team, developing artwork, integrating sound, prototyping, bug triage, polishing, publishing and marketing. Examines the role of the game designer; UI/UX for mobile; and the art of pitching.

Instructor(s): Spencer Striker

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

- MIT Technical-Practical Course

MIT 376-0 Topics in Interactive Media: Web Design NEW

Technical-practical, hands-on introduction to the fundamentals of web design. Grounded in history, theory. Project-based learning approach. Emphasis on hand-coding with current web development languages. Students will be introduced to key concepts: including content structure, styling, user experience (UX), user interface (UI), and responsive, cross-platform design for the emergent, modern web.

Instructor(s): Spencer Striker

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only
- MIT Technical-Practical Course

MIT 377-0 Topics in Non-fiction Media: One Person Documentarian NEW

In this course you will learn to develop and produce ideas suitable for the one-person crew, and distribute your work. Grab your multiple hats, because you will be wearing them all as you complete a short documentary as Producer/Director/Cinematographer/Editor. Works from renowned solo filmmakers are screened, with assigned readings about key concepts. Assignments include written production plan and a midterm.

Instructor(s): Danielle Beverly

Prerequisites: MIT 190

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only
- MIT Technical-Practical Course

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Feminist Media Historiography

This course explores the theories and practices of media historiography—that is, researching and writing media history—from a feminist perspective. During the first half of the course, students will learn and practice methods of historical research by investigating a range of media produced for girls and young women between 1968-1980—the era commonly referred to as “second-wave feminism” in the U.S. Artifacts to be examined include teen’s and women’s magazines, diaries, high school yearbooks, young adult fiction, self-help books, popular music, TV shows, films, advertisements, games, and toys as well as a range of primary documents related to these artifacts—from trade and fan press discourses and journalistic reviews, to box office figures, Nielsen ratings data, and archival materials. One of our primary goals will be to consider how different resources count as “evidence” and can be used to uncover, expand, complicate, and/or challenge contemporary histories of youth, gender, and popular culture. During the second half of the course, students will apply the theories and practices of media historiography to an original, gender-related research project of their own choosing. Students will be responsible for locating and reading primary and secondary sources carefully and critically, assessing sources in relation to the historical context in which they were produced, bringing their research to class for workshopping sessions, and writing a final paper (and giving a presentation) that showcases their unique historical and analytical research discoveries. In addition to enhancing students’ interests and abilities in feminist historical research, the course aims to help students develop a polished research paper that could be submitted to an international conference on gender and media history.

Instructor(s): Kirsten Pike

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Gulf Politics & Public Opinion NEW

The course focuses on politics in the Gulf region including Iran in relation to public opinion in traditional and non-traditional media. Students examine the character of regimes and the political and civil rights situation in the region, emphasizing concerns about freedom of expression and the press. The role of public opinion and media structures are assessed.

Instructor(s): Luciano Zaccara

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and Politics Minor and Middle East Studies Minor

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Web 2.0 & Personal Branding

A personal brand is a manifestation of identity. Social media are channels for establishing personal identities and building brand images. Students engage readings and discussions that deepen understandings about personal branding practices and trends, and learn practical tools for creating effective strategies that enable each individual to leverage the theories to build an effective personal brand in social media environments.

Instructor(s): Venus Jin

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Digital Media Environment

Students examine implications of digital media with a focus on meanings, purposes and impact on individuals and societies. The course investigates popular practices in areas including digital gaming, e-learning, human-computer-interaction, VR and AR. Students explore the micro level of individual psychology and the macro level of society and culture. Topics include online deception, platform addiction, privacy concerns, and cyberbullying.

Instructor(s): Venus Jin

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Sports Brand Management NEW

Students develop understanding of the global the sports industry economy and how sports properties and professional athletes leverage branding and communications for economic gain. The economic characteristics of the sports industry sports and sports marketing are topical areas the class discussed as background to managing sports branding.

Instructor(s): Gerard Akindes

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Music Documentaries NEW

In this theory course students will view music documentaries from around the world, to critically explore how music can unite populations, demonstrate commonality, and spur change. In addition to weekly film screenings, students will read scholarly texts to inform their understanding. Final project will either be a research paper or digital project. Note: This is not a production course.

Instructor(s): Danielle Beverly

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Production Research

Students learn essential knowledge and develop skills in conducting research for media productions. The course links methods and production practices for developing scripts and documentaries with emphasis on practical experience. The three modules cover (1) basic research methods, (2) ethnography for screenwriting and production design, and (3) oral history for developing documentaries. This course features lectures, workshops and practice.

Instructor(s): Joe Khalil

Prerequisites: MIT 190-0

- Sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Crisis Management NEW

Students learn essential knowledge for identifying, preventing, and controlling crisis situations in media companies. Coursework teaches theories, models and related concepts widely used for crisis management. Students will develop a crisis management plan and media strategy. Guest speakers from the industry help students understand the practical importance of crisis management knowledge and skills.

Instructor(s): Mohammed Al-Emadi

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Comm Law & Religion in the ME NEW

This course addresses a range of legal and jurisprudential issues at the intersection of law, religion, and communication from an international and comparative perspective. Particular attention is given to examining the ways in which law regulates and structures the communicative aspect of religion, ranging from matters of speech and censorship to symbolic communication such as a religious dress.

Instructor(s): Zachary Calo

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Media Economics

Students learn foundational concepts and practices pertaining to the economics of media industries to clarify both what is unique and what is typical in the economic structures and dynamics, with a focus on the impact of digital disruption and globalization. The substance is applied to companies and their managers. Students do not need prior knowledge of economic theory.

Instructor(s): Gregory Ferrell Lowe

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Media Spin & Strategies NEW

The course provides a comprehensive overview of the theoretical frameworks and practical applications of media narratives in different global contexts and diverse genres, especially sports and documentary in media platforms from digital niche to mainstream media. Students learn necessary strategies and critical thinking skills to create effective narratives, which they do as a final project.

Instructor(s): Matthias Krug

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Visual Rhetoric NEW

Students learn methods for critical analysis of advertising, art, branding, memorials, photographs, political cartoons and other visual media as artifacts of persuasion and civic discourse. Students apply theories of rhetorical criticism, rhetorical history and public memory to regional and global case studies they leverage to create of visual media intended to persuade or inform.

Instructor(s): Brady Creel**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: African Youth Media NEW

This course examines African media through the lens of youth. We interrogate how African youths consume, create, and circulate media, as well as how African media constructs youth as historically changing and contested social category. We read closely and critically popular media covering the late colonial period to the present.

Instructor(s): Clovis Bergere**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only
- Satisfies Africana Studies Minor and Media and Politics Minor

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Justice in Law & Film NEW

This class uses film to examine discursive incursions of alterity (otherness) in the law to consider its impact on justice in contextualizing a colorblind and meritocratic occidental legal system that perpetuates social inequities. The course draws on Critical Race Theory and Critical Muslim Studies.

Instructor(s): Nadia Salem**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Satisfies Media and Politics Minor

Journalism Courses

INTERDIS 201-0 Media and Society

Students explore the interactions among media, cultures and societies to develop critical perspectives on the relationships between media institutions, content, audiences and communities. Globalization and technological change are important variables. Students learn the historical background of influential media industries and examine content in many genres. The course emphasizes ethical communication.

Instructor(s): Banu Akdenizli**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to first year students only

JOUR 301-1 News Gathering and Assessment

Focuses on news gathering as the "science of verification," using multiple independent sources to find, confirm, check and report facts. You will scrutinize and evaluate publicly available documents, information obtained via social media, quantitative data, historical records, legal records, peer-reviewed research as well

as information gathered from interviews. You will gather and verify information to produce new pieces of reporting as well as adding facts and context to existing reporting as part of ethical aggregation and curation. Students in this course should think of themselves as real reporters, working to produce real stories for a real online publication with a real audience. The best stories produced in this class may appear publicly. This course also aims to give you experiences that have an eye on the future of journalism. The stories and/or assignments of this class represent story archetypes (or story opportunities) that most media organizations consistently publish.

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif & Marda Dunsky

Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0

- Open to sophomores, JOUR majors only

JOUR 303-0 Audience Insight

This class provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the concepts and issues related to the notion of audience and audience analytics while discussing its significance in relation to contemporary journalism. The course introduces students to general audience research and what methods are most appropriate to identify target audiences as well as evaluating news consumption by the public. In so doing, the course examines the key notion of news audiences and how in the digital age has become a central element in defining both content and dissemination strategies of news. Students will become familiar with key concepts around news audiences and become familiar with the existing literature on the topic. Furthermore, this course will provide an historical overview of notions such as 'the public', 'audiences' and 'consumers' as well as broader notions such as 'public opinion' and the 'public sphere' and how these concepts relate to news media, and media as a whole. The course has both theoretical elements and practical aspects. Hence, it will allow students to develop skills around analytics that will allow them to engage effectively with particular technologies and tools that permit the critical examination of data related to audiences. In so doing, students will learn how to use existing open and free software to assess and examine existing and potential audiences for the news content they produce.

Instructor(s): Basyouni Hamada

Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0

- Open to sophomores, JOUR majors only

JOUR 325-0 Special Topics: Journalism and Social Media (5 Weeks) NEW

During the last two decades, social media has transformed Journalism. On the one hand, it has given news professionals an unprecedented capacity to engage in meaningful conversation with their audiences, which provides them with valuable insight to better understand the public, their preferences and their news consumption patterns. On the other hand, social media has enabled journalists to tell stories across a wider range of platforms, personalising their news offering, and reaching different demographics. Social Media has also come with challenges. Twitter, Facebook and news aggregators, such as Google and Apple News, are now users' preferred news providers, even if the content is produced in mainstream media organisations such as the NYT or the BBC. This trend has seen advertising revenue shifting from mainstream media to online outlets, and from legacy organisations to social media platforms. With these developments in mind, this practical course introduces students to the use of social media for news gathering, production and dissemination. Through engagement with social media platforms such as TikTok, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram, students will learn how to produce news, curate and verify information, engage with audiences and gain followers, do live reporting and social listening, and crowdsource investigations. Finally, this course will also train students to deal with toxic comments online and trolling.

Instructor(s): Eddy Borges-Rey

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above Journalism majors only; for students going on residency

JOUR 326-0 Documentary for Journalists NEW

This is a hands-on practical documentary video production class that places an emphasis on nonfictional field production. The course combines the theory of journalistic documentary production, research/pre-production and practical production/post-production elements. Demonstrations, screenings, readings, lectures and class discussions prepare students to produce their own journalistic documentary. Students will be required to complete the production elements working as both parts of a group and autonomously. This course places an emphasis on research, planning, and writing skills, which are deemed essential for successful journalistic video production.

Instructor(s): Miriam Berg & Christina Paschyn

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling (5 Weeks)

Advanced Online Storytelling is a 5-week intensive course that prepares journalism students for their residencies by simulating a newsroom/programme department environment. In this class, students will produce news on culture which they will bring together on a multimedia website. The audience being targeted is an international one – with a particular sensitivity to the ‘global south’. The output is expected to cover a range of different areas of cultural news. The output is expected to be produced in a range of different formats: written pieces, short filmed reports, podcasts, animated explainers. This is an intensive course which will involve hitting the ground running.

Instructor(s): Renee Odeh

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above JOUR majors only; for students going on residency.

JOUR 345-0 Journalism Residency: News Magazine and Feature Writing Residency

Journalism Residency in Newspaper/Online (2 units). Hones reporting and news writing skills through practical assignments, including multimedia opportunities whenever possible, under deadline pressure and close editorial supervision.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: Must enroll and obtain a C or better in JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling and JOUR 325-0 Journalism and Social Media

- Open to juniors and above JOUR majors only

JOUR 355-0 Journalism Residency: Magazine Writing Residency

Journalism Residency in Magazine (2 units). Exploration of aspects of magazine writing and reporting. Practical assignments, including print and web content whenever possible, in a magazine office with deadline pressure and close professional supervision.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: Must enroll and obtain a C or better in JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling and JOUR 325-0 Journalism and Social Media

- Open to juniors and above JOUR majors only

JOUR 365-0 Journalism Residency: Broadcast Reporting

Journalism Residency in Broadcast (2 units). Gathering television news in the field; writing scripts, readers, voiceovers, packages and on-camera news for reporters and anchors. Practical assignments in a broadcast newsroom under close professional supervision.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: Must enroll and obtain a C or better in JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling and JOUR 325-0 Journalism and Social Media

- Open to juniors and above JOUR majors only

JOUR 390-0/ MIT 398-0/ Religion 242-0 Special Topics: Media and Religion

Many of the most significant public discourses and media narratives produced today are those that concern religion. Matters of faith and its practices, contestations, pamphleteering, violence, social backlashes, and fictive storylines are all fodder for media content and for provoking crucial global conversations. In this class, students will be introduced to the surprisingly close relationships between the mighty forces of media and religion in what is arguably a “secular” age. We will take a close look at the evolution of religious content in popular media (including entertainment, journalism, and religious broadcasting) and examine how this all relates to what is loosely called “globalization.” We will also consider methods to produce case studies of major media stories that started as or evolved into religion-based narratives, mainly Islam, such as ISIS’s use of digital media; reactions and counter-reactions to the Charlie Hebdo shootings; Western discourses appropriating religion for political advantage; and appraisals of media handling of such flashpoints as the Chapel Hill murders, South Carolina church shootings, post-elections intimidations, and more. This will be an interactive class with much discussion and analysis.

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and Politics Minor and Middle East Studies Minor

JOUR 390-0 Special Topics: Interactive Longform Jour NEW

Interactive Longform Jour imparts approaches, methods and skills enabling students to understand and produce longform print journalism. At the end of the semester, students will have produced the deliverable of an online, interactive piece they can pitch for professional publication outside NU-Q. The criteria for the piece are: print (vs. video) 4,000-word length includes at least two interactive elements produced with NU-Q DAMA Lab includes a pitch proposal for seeking (post-course) publication outside of NU-Q and broadcast media.

Instructor(s): Marda Dunskey & Eric Espig

Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0

- Open to sophomores and above, JOUR majors only

JOUR 395-0 Strategic Communication Residency

Practical work under professional supervision in a public relations agency or in a division of a corporate or not-for-profit entity.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: Must enroll and obtain a C or better in JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling and JOUR 325-0 Journalism and Social Media

- Open to juniors and above JOUR majors only

STRATCOM 303-0 Introduction to Strategic Communication

Introductory course in which students learn about the fundamentals of strategic communication; become familiar with strategic communication practices such as advertising, public relations, branding, corporate communication, promotions, social media marketing, and mobile marketing; understand the integrated approach to IMC (Integrated Marketing Communications); explore issues shaping the practice of strategic

communication such as ethics and industry regulations; discover career opportunities and types of jobs in strategic marketing communications in the non-profit sector, the private sector, or the government.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui & George Anghelcev

Prerequisites: None

- Open to students who have declared Stratcom Certificate and are sophomores and above
- Students who have earned credit for IMC 330-0 or IMC 303-0 may not earn credit for STRATCOM 303-0
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Strategic Communication minor

STRATCOM 305-0 Corporate Storytelling

Builds on foundational knowledge acquired in pre-requisite courses. Designed to provide skills for developing effective communications messages on behalf of brands, commercial and non-commercial organization, and for integrating the messages into coherent institutional narratives. Hands-on exercises in writing and in using digital and traditional media for effective communications. Students develop personal and group portfolios to kick-start their careers.

Instructor(s): George Anghelcev

Prerequisites: IMC 330-0 or STRATCOM 303-0

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Students who have earned credit for IMC 331-0 may not earn credit for STRATCOM 305-0
- Satisfies Strategic Communication minor

STRATCOM 320-0 Strategic Communication Campaigns

In this course students develop a comprehensive integrated strategic communication program. Final product consists of a report that outlines the learning and insights that led to the strategic, creative, interactive and digital recommendations; a client presentation; and a project book detailing the research, analysis, strategy, creative and content execution, media use and other integrated communication activities.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: STRATCOM 305-0 OR IMC 331-0

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Strategic Communication minor

Liberal Arts Courses

Anthro 242-0: Special Topics: Intro to Anthro in the Middle East

Provides an introduction to anthropological approaches to analyzing societies in the Middle East. Students will read ethnographies to study questions of social change, cultural representation, gender, and political conflict, among others.

Instructor(s): Sami Hermez

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

ECON 242-0 Principles of Economics

This introductory course studies basic economic concepts and theories. It is divided into two main parts: microeconomics and topics on macroeconomics. The module examines central economic ideas including supply and demand, market structures, consumers, public policy and monopoly as well as macroeconomic

indicators such as gross domestic product, inflation and unemployment. Issues on economic growth, financial systems and capital markets are also discussed (including Islamic finance). Whenever possible, examples from Qatar and other economies in the Gulf region will be used to illustrate the material being discussed. The content and delivery of the course are suitable to students who are not pursuing a major in economics. Topics are discussed in a relatively non-technical way. Analytical explanations will focus on graphs rather than mathematics.

Instructor(s): Giovanni Bandi

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration

ENGLISH 103-2 First-Year Writing

In this course students will explore issues in writing for research. They will formulate research questions, identify research methods, select sources, understand research contexts, and assess audience expectations.

Instructor(s): Aaron Laduke/ Sam Meekings/ James Hodapp / Kelly Wilson/ Maria Lombard / Hanan Hindi

Prerequisites: ENGLISH 103-1

- Open to first year students only

ENGLISH 242-0 Topics in Literature: Introduction to Poetry **NEW**

The course will examine how poems speak to us and our world, focusing on the uses of poetry in rethinking our experiences and our lives. It will examine how poetry functions as a site of protest and resistance. It will provide students with a foundation in the close reading of various styles of poems written in different historical periods, as well as encouraging students to create their own poems. Giving a broad introduction to poetic forms from sonnets and ballads through to free verse and poetry film, the course will give students the skills to both analyze and experiment with key poetic techniques and components, focusing on style, diction, and poetic devices such as rhyme, meter, imagery, symbol, tone, perspective and personal. The course will focus on the role of poetry throughout history as a form of protest speaking out against injustice, in particular in terms of culture, nation-building, religion, story-telling, politics, and identity. As well as touching on key canonical poetic figures and movements, the course will pay particular attention to global poetries and poetry in translation. Students will learn to read poems from different perspectives, and create their own poetry that speaks to today's world.

Instructor(s): Sam Meekings

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

ENGLISH 242-0 Topics in Literature: African Literature

In this course we will study the foundations of African literature in the print era, beginning with the missionary press era, and the seminal novel *Chaka* by Thomas Mofolo. We will make our way through some of the literary highlights of the modern era in Africa by turning to various novels and short stories from the independence era, eventually reading contemporary texts from Africa in an effort to track the development of African literary studies.

Instructor(s): James Hodapp

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students and Sophomore
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Africana Studies Minor

HISTORY 242-0 Topics in History: What is Modern Europe?

What is Modern Europe? This course explores the last 250 years of European history to find an answer. It will not cover everything. It is designed to be an analysis of the ideas, people and events that transformed Europe from small territorial states to industrial empires that spread around the world and then collapsed. Our goal is to uncover how Europeans lived through these changes and over time transformed them into a definition of modernity that lives on today. Ultimately, this course argues that understanding the history of Modern Europe is essential for understanding how the modern world is defined.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

HISTORY 387-0 History Adv Special Topics: Britain and the Middle East

This course examines the history of British involvement in the Middle East over the last 200 years. We will explore British strategies of formal and informal influence in the region and, in turn, local strategies of resistance and accommodation. We will start by focusing on the development of political, economic and cultural ties between Victorian Britain and the Ottoman Empire in the 19th Century. We will then study the British occupation of Egypt in 1881 as the beginning of a period of expansionism in the Middle East, follow the rise of British influence during WWI and the post-war Mandates in Palestine, Syria, Iraq and Iran, before tracing the rise of Arab nationalism and the decline of British influence in WWII, the 1948 War and the Suez Crisis of 1956. Throughout the course our goal will be to understand how the interactions between these two worlds helped shape the modern Middle East.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

HISTORY 387-0 History Adv Special Topics: African Liberation Struggles NEW

This course concerns key theoretical issues relating to colonialism, decolonization, and liberation and situates these discussions in case studies from the around the African continent. Key case studies include Algeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Rwanda, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, and Guinea-Bissau. Key theoretical concerns include European orientalism and anti-black racism, colonial development policies, Nègritude and other liberatory ideologies, post-colonial balkanization and nationalism, pan-Africanism, African political complexities, and neocolonialism.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Africana Studies Minor

INTERDIS 205-0 Interdisciplinary Topics: Women's Identity in the Gulf NEW

The aim of this course is to study gendered national identity in the Gulf region and the role of women in identity politics. Using a comparative lens, the role of women in nation building will be studied starting from a global level and moving to the more regional level. The course focuses on multiple layers of identity in the Gulf (tribe, family, ethnicity and religion) and how each one of the layers further affects the place of women in the nation. The notion of "Gulf women" as one uniform category is questioned, considering the intersectionality of the various groups of women. The impact of modernization, education, globalization and

modern economies on kinship institutions are also examined in terms of the rise in state feminism and women empowerment as part of national projects.

Instructor(s): Zarqa Parvez

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

INTERDIS 242-0 Topics in Science and Technology Studies: Science, Technology & Society

The course introduces you the role of science and technology in different societies around world from different time periods. Exploring science and technology in world history, we will examine several case studies that raise important questions related to the relationship between science and technology and between technoscience and society. We will explore how both local and global human endeavors influenced the development of science and technology and how societies were in turn shaped by these technoscientific developments. Along the way, important concepts and key terms in science and technology studies (STS) will be introduced as way to discuss the intertwining connection among science, technology, and society.

Instructor(s): Anto Mohsin

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration

INTERDIS 305-0 Adv Interdisciplinary Topics: Geopolitics & the Global South NEW

China announced its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in 2013 as a grand strategy of connectivity through networked land and sea routes. These are intended to facilitate China's internal development, energy needs and trade in a Sino-centric orbit of economic, political, cultural and security relations. Through this vast network of mega-infrastructure projects, the BRI has the potential to impact development in dozens of countries in profound ways. The course will focus on the current and potential impacts of the BRI across the Global South in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia. To date, China has invested more than \$340 billion in the BRI, over one-third of the \$1 trillion pledged—making it arguably the most ambitious global development project in modern human history.

Instructor(s): Mufid Qassoum

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration

INTERDIS 306-0: Advanced Topics: Body, Science, and Society NEW

In this course we will study how health and illness are shaped, experienced, and perceived in light of global, historical and political powers. The course will examine how biopower creates ways of being human, how social inequalities creates illness, and how politics creates life for populations and death for other populations. We will examine how illness, health, and healing are embedded within distinct social, political, and cultural worlds, and how physical and mental experiences such as pain and suffering are produced and experienced. Furthermore, the course will examine these experiences in times of crisis such as infectious disease outbreaks that unmask systemic inequalities and biopowers. The course is structured through two main themes: concepts in medical anthropology, and medical anthropology in practice. In the first six weeks, we will focus on history, concepts, methods, and approaches in medical anthropology, and how medical anthropologists see the world of health and disease. During the following eight weeks, we will focus on different health conditions, and examine how anthropology addresses them.

Instructor(s): Suhad Nashef

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration

INTERDIS 388-0: Minor Capstone NEW

Students are required to complete a portfolio that provides an overview of their course of study related to the minor. The portfolio will be used to document course and extracurricular work, as well as a reflective essay and oral presentation. Specific details can be found on the NU-Q website at <https://my.qatar.northwestern.edu/academic-resources/courses/curriculum/index.html> and through the minor faculty chair assigned to the course.

Instructor(s): Scott Curtis, Ilhem Allagui & Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: Completion of all minor required courses

- Open to students who have completed all the minor required courses and are juniors and above

PHIL 387-0 Topics in Philosophy: Social Construction

The idea that aspects of our world are socially constructed is prominent both in public discourse and in academic disciplines such as sociology, anthropology, gender studies, disability studies, critical race theory, and literary theory. The goal of this class is to better understand claims about social construction. How is social construction supposed to work? Does it work the same way in all cases? How can our thinking about something affect the nature of the things we think about? What are the historical developments and social forces at work? Does the claim that something is socially constructed mean that it is not real? We are also going to think about the political and ethical implications of the idea: Does the claim that something is socially constructed undermine its authority? What is the problem with essentialists claims about race, gender, disability, etc.? Does social construction mean that “anything goes”? What should we do with the things that turn out to be socially constructed — keep, reform, or abolish them? We are going to explore these question in a number of different areas, which may include race, gender, sexuality, disability, mental illness, money, and power. In addition to systematic philosophical texts, we are going to read texts that situate these phenomena in concrete social and historical contexts. The class will have an interactive, discussion-based format.

Instructor(s): Torsten Menge

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration

POLI_SCI 242-0 Topics in Political Science: Palestine & Arab-Israeli Conflict

The course examines the various aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict with specific focus on Palestine and the Palestinians. It starts with looking at the history of Zionism and the idea of establishing a Jewish homeland in Palestine; then moves to discuss the consequences of the implementation of this idea within colonial and postcolonial contexts. Particular importance is given to the 1948 war and the subsequent creation of Israel; where the region entered a state of conflict between Israel and the neighboring Arab countries that left devastating impacts. Top of these are the emergence of the Palestinian refugees issue, and the lack of Palestinian statehood. Following the chronology of the conflict with its war and peace episodes, the course intends to critically discuss the conflicting narratives, role of regional and international players and the long-lasting and present ramifications of the conflict that have affected the shape and politics of the Middle East.

Instructor(s): Khaled Al Hroub

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students

- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

POLI_SCI 242-0 Topics in Political Science: Intro to Int'l Political Econ

This course is intended as an introduction to the field of international political economy. It is designed to give students a grasp of the interactions between politics and economics in shaping the global, regional and local dynamics, illuminating their increasing interconnectedness and interdependence in the era of globalization. Students will be introduced to key theories and analytical frameworks combining interdisciplinary tools that can be applied in a variety of social science disciplines. The course also will introduce students to some major issues of international political economy such as global governance, international financial institutions, multinational corporations, development aid, international trade, cooperation and conflict, among others.

Instructor(s): Tariq Dana

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration

POLI_SCI 309-0 Adv Topics in Political Theory: Islamism & Politics Mid East

This course focuses on the dynamics of politics and religion in the Middle East either by states or non-state actors as from the turn of 20th century. It starts with examining notions of politics and leadership in early Islamic tradition including power, legitimacy and umma community; then proceeds to examine how and why these notions have evolved in time and space leading to political forms adopted and advocated by modern forms of Islamism.

Instructor(s): Khaled Al Hroub

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- **Students who completed POLI_SCI 242-0 Topics in Political Science: Islamism & Politics Mid East should not enroll in this course**
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

PSYCH 242-0 Psychology Topics: Intro to Psychology **NEW**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the main concepts and content areas of psychology and human behavior. It will explore various questions, such as how people acquire knowledge, develop throughout their lives, are influenced by personality vs. social surroundings, learn, and experience other human phenomena, including emotions and psychopathology. The course will provide a broad coverage of the field and will introduce students to the methods and critical thinking skills that are used in psychological research and application. Students will be encouraged to critically think about psychology and the claims psychologists make. Understanding some of the major concepts in psychology is beneficial for understanding the mental processes and behavior of people and for evaluating its relevance to important issues in our lives.

Instructor(s): Diala Hawi

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students and above
- Open for cross-registration

RELIGION 242-0 Topics in Religion Studies: Sufism

Sufism, sometimes referred to as “Islamic mysticism”, has played a critical role in Muslim societies. This course provides an overview of the key doctrines of Sufism and considers their elaboration in dialogue with broader the broader intellectual, social and political history of Muslim civilizations. As Sufism is mostly widely

practiced today in African Muslim societies, the course considers key case studies of Sufi revival in contemporary West Africa.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor & Africana Studies Minor

SOCIOLOGY 242-0 Topics in Sociology: Race and Racism

This course offers sociological understanding of race with special attention to the locals and migrants in the Middle East, North Africa and Asia. Themes include the meaning of race and racism as well as how social institutions shape individual's experiences based on their race.

Instructor(s): Hasan Mahmud

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

SOCIOLOGY 387-0 Advanced Topics in Sociology: Refugees in/from Arab World **NEW**

This course addresses the issue of displaced people and refugees in and from the Arab world, taking the cases of Sudan, Palestine, Iraq, Syria, and one other to be collectively defined. The course adopts a holistic approach to the study of refugees grounded largely on people's perspectives, and drawing upon sociological, ethnographic, and historical material. Less focused on causes of refugee movements, we will look into the meanings of displacement through refugees' experiences, how they adapt to their new situations and find ways to overcome challenges, how local and international organizations and communities respond to refugee influxes in short-term and protracted situations, and how different media and formats represent refugees and issues. Students will be exposed to the work of anthropologists, sociologists, historians, journalists, aid workers, policy makers, literary authors/artists, and voices of refugees themselves. This insight will equip future communicators and journalists with knowledge of issues and formats to engage in meaningful work around refugees.

Instructor(s): Suzanne Hammad

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor and Media and Politics Minor