

NU-Q Fall 2015 Course Descriptions

Communication/MIT Courses

Journalism Courses

Liberal Arts Courses

Communication/ MIT Courses

GEN CMN 201-0 Research Methods in Communication

This course introduces the student to the basic research concepts, methods, and tools used to design, conduct, and interpret studies in communication and other fields. Research is a complex process that shares basic similarities across a variety of different topics and approaches. The course will survey the steps of the research process; introduce students to foundational social science concepts and vocabulary; and develop students' understanding of and ability to use quantitative and qualitative research methods. By the end of the course, students will be able to (1) understand the common denominators of the research process--from inception of the research project through publication—that are similar across a variety of different research questions and types; (2) analyze research types by identifying standard conventions and elements within both quantitative and qualitative methods; (3) recognize and identify the advantages and disadvantages of research findings as they appear in both academic and popular venues; (4) design a basic study to answer a research question, including choosing the best method with which to answer the question then designing the study to successfully do so.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun

Prerequisites: None

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

MIT 143-0 Basic Acting

This course introduces the process of storytelling through acting exercises based in observation, imagination, and improvisation. Coursework will focus on perceiving, studying, and recreating human behavior for the purpose of developing stronger stage presence and becoming a more effective communicator. By exploring a variety of imaginative resources, you will participate in classwork from the perspective of "Actor as Creative Artist and Communicator." The course aims to increase awareness and understanding of human motivations and intentions; describe methods of text-based analysis in a creative process; and develop fundamental skills for effective audience communication. By the end of the course students will be able to: observe and re-create human behavior from actor's point of view; analyze key elements of human behavior, such as motivation, intention, actions, and tactics; utilize creative thinking skills for problem-solving; acquire deeper understanding of Self as Creative Artist; identify fundamental story-structure elements; and develop stage techniques to build and shape engaging presentations.

Instructor(s): Ann Woodworth

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for cross-registration
- ***Students must be present on the first day or they will be dropped from the class***

MIT 206-0 Theories of Argumentation

This course will provide students with a conceptual vocabulary and theoretical framework that will help them become critical consumers and efficient producers of argumentative deliberation, a crucial

component of decision-making and communication. Specifically, students will study the essential components and basic framework of an argumentative message (as elucidated by Stephen Toulmin). They will apply this framework in analyses of persuasive messages and public controversies. Students will also study and apply the basic debating processes of refutation, defense, and counterargument. This conventional study of argumentation will be supplemented with reflections on argumentation via narrative and argumentation via visual texts. Coursework will consist of readings, lectures, and discussions. Students will be evaluated through quizzes, short papers, and presentations.

By the end of this course, students will be able to: (1) use Toulmin's conceptual framework to analyze and evaluate argumentative messages; (2) use Toulmin's conceptual framework to construct argumentative messages of their own; (3) enter into an on-going debate on a controversial issue by offering refutations of and counterarguments to prevailing positions as well as a compelling defense of their own position; (4) analyze, evaluate, and construct arguments presented in the form of narratives; and (5) analyze, evaluate, and construct arguments presented in the form of visual texts.

Instructor(s): Allwyn Tellis

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 212-0 Exploring Global Media

This is a course about the various multi-billion dollar industries that provide us with information, entertainment, and advertising. As a result, these global media have an enormous impact in shaping our culture. Throughout the class, we will explore the infrastructures, markets, and stakeholders that shape the development of global media. This course aims to cover the historical context of global media; the theories to interpret global media's impact and reach; and the tools to investigate the elements and agents of global media. By the end of the course, students will be able to: explain when, how and why certain media can become global; apply global media theories to interpretations of global media contexts; research and assess global media organizations; and identify and assess current and future challenges and trends in global media.

Instructor(s): Joe Khalil

Prerequisites: None

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

MIT 220-0 Analyzing Media Texts

This course is an introduction to the study and structure of film and other moving-image media. We will define and examine the expressive and aesthetic power of the basic elements of the moving image. Specifically, the course will investigate—across a variety of different media, modes and genres, and historical periods—the fundamentals of set design and acting styles; cinematography, especially the shot and its composition; editing; sound; and narrative structure. The goals of the course are (1) to acquaint students with a vocabulary specific to film and other moving-image media; (2) to provide students with the critical tools required for analysis of the moving image; and (3) to develop student skills in writing and argument for humanistic inquiry. By the end of the course, students will be able to: (1) identify the elements of the moving image (e.g., kinds of camera movement) and of the soundtrack according to a standard glossary of technical terms; (2) recognize patterns of similarity, repetition, difference, and variation in the image and sound tracks and describe them in brief screening reports and essays; (3) relate those patterns to narrative structure, character psychology, or larger themes and ideas, and describe these relationships in a report or essay; (4) and choose the most salient elements in a film in order to craft a written argument about how their patterns function within the meaning-making process of the film.

Instructor(s): Scott Curtis

Prerequisites: None

- Required for MIT freshmen
- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Contemporary Media Sequence course requirement

MIT 243-0 Acting I: Principles of Characterization

The goal of this course is to explore the fundamental acting principles of characterization in order to create motivated and engaging behavior - offstage as well as onstage. The focus is on studying characters from plays to learn acting skills needed to understand various human perspectives of character motivation and responses, relationships, and circumstances. You will participate in class work from the perspective of "Actor as Creative Artist of Human Character." This course provides the groundwork for building dramatic character, relationships, given circumstances, and the world in which the character lives. You will acquire skills in creative research and performance to develop dynamic and high-stakes dramatic stories. It also offers you a foundation for acquiring compassion and effective communication skills such as increased concentration, self-awareness, and spontaneity, via diligent practice of re-creating human behavior in a variety of circumstances.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Utilize observation, imagination, and improvisation tools within a creative process
- 2) Identify character elements required to build a character
- 3) Build characterization from text-based analysis
- 4) Make effective character choices that are simple, strong, and specific
- 5) Utilize creative thinking for problem-solving
- 6) Re-create character choices actively through behavior

Instructor(s): Ann Woodworth

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- ***Students must be present on the first day or they will be dropped from the class***

MIT 260-0 Foundations of Screenwriting

This course is designed to supply students with tools to expand and enrich their appreciation of all aspects of filmmaking, especially screenwriting. Students will prepare for entry into the professional world by learning how outside forces can influence the screenwriter's decisions. Through the practice of screenwriting, students will: (1) learn how to represent in words not only story, but also sound design, editing, visual design, and other elements of media making; (2) discover how core concepts of character, structure, plot, theme, and tone interact within existing and emerging media forms, and (3) explore a variety of films, topics, and exercises that will provide inspiration for a piece of original work of personal significance. By the end of the course, students will be able to: (1) write in professional screenplay style and format; (2) generate compelling scenes, characters, and stories, and distinguish between derivative, obvious choices and honest, original alternatives that affect and move an audience; (3) think like a screenwriter, applying the language of constructive screenplay development and criticism to their own work as well as to the work of others.

Instructor(s): Sue H. Pak

Prerequisites:

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

MIT 312-0 History of Film

This course offers an introductory survey of world film history from the 1890s to the present. We will examine a wide range of films—feature-length narratives as well as animated, experimental, and documentary shorts—and place them in their historical and cultural context. The goal of the course is to acquaint students with the contours of film history and, at the same time, to generate enthusiasm for this distant landscape upon which the more familiar terrain of contemporary film culture rests.

The course will cover such topics as: early cinema in Europe and the United States; race, gender, and stardom in early American cinema; various national cinemas of the 1920s, including Germany, France, and the Soviet Union; the introduction of sound to motion pictures; the Hollywood studio system of the 1920s and 1930s; the studio system in Japan; French Poetic Realism; post-war trauma in the films of Europe and the United States; labor battles, the HUAC trials, and blacklisting in the U.S. film industry; Italian Neo-Realism; the introduction of Japanese and Indian films to the West; the French New Wave and the New German Cinema; art and authorship; political cinemas of Latin America and Eastern Europe; New American Cinema; the cinemas of Africa, the Middle East, and Hong Kong.

Instructor(s): Kaveh Askari

Prerequisites: None

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

MIT 349-0 Internship

This course provides academic oversight and mentoring in tandem with the professional internships taken by Communication students. Students will meet weekly with the instructor and other students to discuss the readings and their relationship to events in the job sites, and to share progress reports, questions, and concerns about the work they are completing in various media-related jobs. The course aims to (1) familiarize students with foundational organizational and career concepts including effective teamwork, career development, etc.; (2) analyze organizational effectiveness by evaluating workplace events and applying the foundational concepts to the situations to assess potential problems and suggest solutions; (3) improve student abilities to diagnose and effectively respond to organizational challenges and opportunities; (4) develop student awareness of and skills needed to manage their own career paths. By the end of the course, students will be able to (1) analyze communication and work flow problems in their internship site and relate them to course readings in weekly response papers; (2) suggest solutions to the problem areas witnessed at the job site that are grounded in the course readings and industry sources in an analytic paper; (3) engage in self-evaluation of their own behavior and provide strategies for managing themselves in the workplace during class discussion and response papers.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above MIT majors
- Students may register for 1-4 units with the instructor's permission
- Consent of instructor required

MIT 351-0 National Cinema: Cinemas of the 'Middle East' and North Africa

The goal of this course is to provide an initial survey of films from the MENA region, including the circumstances and contexts of their production. Entire movies will be screened once a week, mostly feature films, beginning with Egyptian cinema, and then successively Algerian, Palestinian, Israeli, Iranian and Turkish films. Some will also address Kurdish national issues. Some will be older classics. (All will be sub-titled in English.) The films will be accompanied by lectures on their contexts, screenings of short clips from other regional film work, and class discussions of the films' contents. By the end of the course

students will have an informed critical awareness of the variety, depth and historical contexts of cinematic art generated in the region.

Instructor(s): John Downing

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomore and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media & Politics Minor and Contemporary Media Sequence

MIT 379-0 Topics in Film/Video/Audio Production: Script to Screen

This course is an opportunity for students to work on a film from script to production over the course of a semester. Students will blend their previous experiences in acting, cinematography, and screenwriting to create a polished portfolio piece that will bolster professional marketability, aid in fundraising future projects, and showcase their expertise in leading professional film crews. Students will also have the opportunity to complete their projects, should they choose, in the “Post-Production” course offered in Spring 2016.

The first part of this class will focus on developing a producible script in a collaborative environment. Students will be exposed to a variety of processes in collaborative scriptwriting, including but not limited to group/team writing and improvisation. Students will also be tasked with revising their scripts from the point of view of an Actor and a Director. Students will further be expected to continue script revisions well into the production process. Most importantly, students will be encouraged to use source material of great personal interest to them. Students will then work in small crews of four to execute a number of the chosen scripts. Those students who have their script selected will act as the Producer for *another* script – not their own. Students who did *not* have a script selected will act as Director, Cinematographer or Production Designer on one of the available scripts. At the end of the course, students will be able to create, enact, and evaluate a brief, collaborative, producible script; analyze another writer’s script in terms of themes present in the work; direct performances in a manner that captures the tone and emotional weight of the writing; select shots that visualize the story; and design an authentic world for the characters to inhabit.

Instructor(s): Sue Pak & Anne Sobel

Prerequisites: MIT 190-0, 260-0 (380-0 and any acting class preferred but not required)

- Open to sophomores and above MIT majors
- Consent of instructor required
- ***Students must be present on the first day or they will be dropped from the class***

MIT 380-0 Lighting and Cinematography

This class explores advanced lighting and camera techniques. Students will gain an appreciation for the aesthetics of cinematography across several eras and styles, while practicing with the latest digital cameras, lenses, and lighting kits. Students will learn to use cinematography to bring the story to life across multiple genres (documentary, comedy, drama, horror, etc). They will also learn to organize crew and production schedules for smaller-budget films and be exposed to alternative styles of cinematography. The course aims to examine elements crucial for visual storytelling, including composition, depth of field, and lighting; and to impart organizational principles for an efficient set. By the end of the course, students will be able to make informed creative choices regarding lenses, framing, and lighting; break down a script according to the needs of their project; create a production schedule that will allow timely acquisition of all necessary coverage; delegate tasks to crew members; discover a personal leadership and collaboration style; and match creative and technical expertise to their specific project.

Instructor(s): Anne Sobel

Prerequisites: MIT 190-0

- Open to sophomores and above MIT majors
- ***Students must be present on the first day or they will be dropped from the class***

MIT 392-0 Documentary Production

In two lectures per week and outside field work, this course will cover the basics of Documentary Production, with an emphasis on the creation of short documentaries, as well as the history of the genre. Using advanced cameras, professional location audio recording equipment, and Adobe Premiere Pro computer editing, you will create engaging, meaningful, creative non-fiction media. Concurrently throughout the semester, your inquiry, discovery and mastery will be firmly grounded in the history and scholarship of American and international documentaries -- from the early part of the 20th century, through current works. You will read about, view and analyze documentary films in the course. These documentaries will include historical, political, social, cultural, experimental, personal, cinema verite and hybrid forms of documentary expression.

Instructor(s): Danielle Beverly

Prerequisites: MIT 190-0 and 380-0

- Open to sophomores and above MIT majors

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Feminist Media Historiography

This course explores the theories and practices of media historiography—that is, 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 female 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 submitting a final paper that showcases their unique historical and analytical research discoveries. In addition to enhancing students’ interests and abilities in 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: MIT 220-0 and 230-0

- Open to juniors and above
- Consent of instructor required

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Production Research

As technology develops and becomes easier to use, the divisions between researchers, writers, producers, and directors are becoming more fluid. This course links research and production practices to provide students with necessary skills for the development of their television and film scripts and documentaries. The class is divided into three modules covering three research methods: ethnography, oral history, and institutional research. As part of the course the students will produce two audio-visual projects. The course aims to explain the place of research in the production processes of media products; describe the use of ethnography as a tool in the development of television and film characters; chart the use of oral history in

the development of documentaries; and survey the ethical dimensions of production research. By the end of the course, students will be able to compile a production researcher's toolkit; apply ethnographic methods in the development of script characters; apply oral history practices in the collection of documentary interviews; demonstrate knowledge of practical and ethical issues facing production researchers.

Instructor(s): Joe F. Khalil

Prerequisites: MIT 190-0 and 260-0

- Open to sophomores and above
- Students will be dropped if they do not show up to the first class

MIT 398 Undergraduate Seminar: U.S. Media and America's Social Fractures

This course will explore the ways U.S. entertainment media, and sometimes news media too, represent issues of social inequality, racism, sexism, homophobia, and Islamophobia. This will also require students to study basic sociological information concerning social class, ethnic, and other divisions in the USA, along with current public debates on these issues (e.g., is America now "post-racist"? is it, or should it be, "post-feminist"?) Attention will also be paid at intervals to media projects that challenge socially inherited and conventional perspectives on these matters, and seek to give voice to the often unheard. The goal of the course is to deepen and systematize understanding of media roles within the USA's internal social conflicts, and to analyze how far they resolve, or sustain, these divisions. By the end of the course students will be able to assess in depth ongoing manifestations of media performance related to these conflicts within American society.

Instructor(s): John Downing

Prerequisites: None

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

Journalism Courses

GEN CMN 202-0 Statistics

Introduction to statistics and probability models for journalism students. Covers topics common in general statistics courses, including the Central Limit Theorem, descriptive and inferential test statistics, regression to the mean, and analysis of variance. Specific attention is given, however, to statistical challenges journalists encounter in news reporting. Students will discuss ways to detect fraud in government data, methods for dissecting academic research promoted in press releases, and strategies for reporting statistical findings to a mass audience, among other skills. Portions of the book, *Thinking, Fast & Slow* will be read before the class begins, and a short quiz will be completed on day one.

Instructor(s): Justin Martin

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

IMC 303-0 Integrated Marketing Communications Strategy

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

Prerequisites: None

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

IMC 331-0 PR Communication Strategies and Writing

Students apply strategic communication skills in writing public relations pieces for print, electronic and audiovisual media. Communicative tools include news releases, features, pitch letters, fact sheets, public service announcements, argumentation and advocacy pieces, executive summaries and speeches, and more. Through this course, students will develop a portfolio of public relations writing that will help them with internships, residencies and, ultimately, employment in the public relations field.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: IMC 330-0 and JOUR 101-0 or JOUR 201-0 or instructor permission

- Open to sophomores and above

INTERDIS 201-0 Media and Society

Media and Society explores the interactions among media, culture and society. Students work to develop critical perspectives on mass media as they consider the relationships between media institutions, content, culture, audiences and communities. The impact of globalization and the role of technological change are important variables. Students also consider the historical background of several media industries, including newspapers, film, radio, the Internet, television and music. The course examines content and media messages delivered as news, entertainment, persuasion, public relations, and advertising. Global media systems are playing an increasingly large role and are a vital area of study within the class, as is the notion of ethical communication. Media and society students should be able to identify the structure and purpose of a variety of media organizations and be able to describe their influence on individuals and social, political and geographic communities.

Instructor(s): Amy Sanders

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen only

JOUR 203-0 Multimedia Storytelling

Multimedia Journalism is a general introduction to visual and multimedia journalism and storytelling techniques. Students will learn the theories behind and fundamentals of photo and video journalism in order to create their own compelling audio slideshows and video news packages; in addition, students will gain a deeper understanding of how to use social media and search engine optimization techniques to extend the reach of their reporting.

Instructor(s): Christina Paschyn

Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0 with C- or better

- Open to sophomore Journalism majors

JOUR 321-0 Magazine and Feature Writing

Magazine and Feature Writing students will be immersed into the magazine world—a huge and storied part of journalism. Along the way, students will learn to draft, outline, write and edit various kinds of magazine stories, including FOBs (front-of-the-book pieces), departments, features and reviews—storytelling forms that obviously originated in print magazines (and remain so) but, to a good degree, have survived and even thrived the transition to online publications. They vary in length and purpose. This is a writing-intensive, editing-dependent and fact-based class with enormous payback to the students. You will

learn important skills and will be shown an expansive venue (print and online) for your story ideas, storytelling abilities and, of course, your writing style and voice. Your stories in class will be built on your reporting, research, and structure befitting the assignment, and they will be conveyed by your compelling writing style. By this point in the journalism program, students are expected to have advanced writing skills so that we may focus entirely on the various structures and approaches to magazine writing. Students are expected to develop their story ideas (consultation with faculty and classmates is a given) and find sources required to produce interesting and well-told stories.

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif

Prerequisites: JOUR 301-0 with a C or better

- Open to junior Journalism majors

JOUR 323-0 Video Journalism – Studio Production & Video Journalism

Broadcast Production will cover techniques of gathering, reporting, and producing video news with special emphasis on production and writing. This will be accomplished through lecture/discussion, exercises and projects. Upon completion of this course students should be able to gather and produce quality audio and video packages for news, features and documentary programs. They should be able to write/produce short newscasts and edit on Adobe Premier CS6. They will understand the role, function of, and significance that mobile phones and other portable devices have in today's media environment. They will also be comfortable presenting and reporting for live broadcast.

Instructor(s): Miriam Berg

Prerequisites: None

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

JOUR 370-0/MIT 398-0 Media Law & Ethics

Media Law and Ethics is designed to introduce students to concepts related to mass communication law and ethics. Previous study of law or ethics is not required. Students will develop a basic understanding of major legal approaches to freedom of speech and freedom of the press as well a primer on the fundamentals of media ethics. Although this course will place large emphasis on First Amendment principles that apply in the United States, significant time will be dedicated to a comparative analysis of legal principles.

Instructor(s): Amy Sanders

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Priority to Journalism students who will be on residency in the spring.
- Satisfying Media and Politics Minor and Contemporary Media Sequence course requirements

JOUR 390-0/MIT 398-0: The Media and Journalism in Today's Middle East: Shaping and being shaped by the Arab Uprisings

This seminar course will explore ways the media and journalism have affected and often shaped events that have unfolded across the Middle East since the beginning of the Arab Uprisings in late 2010. It will also examine the flipside: how the Arab Uprisings and the turbulence that has followed continue to affect the media and the practice of journalism in the region. The course will be organized around a series of focused case studies drawn from the real world of media and journalism in the Middle East. We will take an interactive, discussion-based approach in this course and students will get to put themselves in the shoes of various protagonists or decision-makers in each case in order to grapple with the kinds of decisions media professional must make and the effects those decisions have on the politics and societies of the

region. Each case will explore an actual situation that highlights key issues like gender and journalism in the Middle East, the shifting regional role of Al Jazeera, social media and digital newsgathering.

Instructor(s): Andrew Mills

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Media and Politics Minor, Contemporary Media Sequence and Middle East Studies Certificate course requirements

JOUR 390-0/MIT 398-0: Digital Multi-Platform Storytelling

The course offers practical application of digital video production techniques and narrative structures to students of strategic communications and journalism. Digital video is different in style and substance from video for television. MIT398/JOURN390 offers a chance to differentiate the nuances and produce video for online. In the first half of the course, students will spend a significant period of time reviewing effective digital video stories. They will look for similarities in narratives and structures. Students will choose stories along well-defined themes such as political contention and activism, gender empowerment and women's rights, the environment and the economy. In the second half students will begin pitching story ideas and start generating content in small production teams, with a specific objective to generate digital video feature content. Students will get practical, hands-on, nuts-and-bolts training to produce quality digital video for online.

Instructor(s): Ali Mustafa

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

Liberal Arts Courses

Note: Students are strongly encouraged to take a 200 level Liberal Arts course before taking a 300 level course.

Anthro 242-0: Special Topics: Violence/Power/Resistance

Walter Benjamin once wrote, "There is no document of civilization which is not at the same time a document of barbarism." In this course, we take this as a starting point to ask: what is violence? What forms does it take? How does it manifest in everyday life? How are people affected by the violence of war, and how are societies changed by political violence? Central to such questions is the place of resistance and its relationship to violence. What are the different ways to resist? What does it mean to struggle for self-determination? When does a freedom fighter become terrorist? What forms of resistance might give hope for social change? And should resistance be violent or non-violent? Circulating through all these questions is a fundamental concern with power. Thus, this course will be concerned with power as a concept that animates violence and resistance. We will explore these questions and delve into topics that include the study of war, genocide, gender violence, gang violence and decolonization in varying geographic areas. We will do so by reading ethnographies, watching documentaries, and analyzing various other artistic expressions.

Instructor(s): Sami Hermez

Prerequisites: None

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

Anthro 379-0: Advance Topics: Troubling Gender Anthropological Perspectives

In this course, students explore anthropological perspectives on gender. They will learn about people's

gendered practices, knowledges and everyday lives in a range of societies. They will tackle debates in the field of gender studies and explore these debates through ethnographies. How are femininity and masculinity defined and embodied across cultures? How do race, class, religion and sexuality intersect with gender? How is mobility gendered? We will explore these and other questions, and analyze the way feminist intellectuals have troubled gender and opened up new spaces of thinking. The class will work together on an ethnographic project that explores the way mobility and space are gendered in Qatar.

Instructor(s): Sami Hermez

Prerequisites: None

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

Arabic 142-0 Arabic for Media

This course will utilize basic text analysis and a critical discourse approach to examine the range of news coverage of the Charlie Hebdo attack in Paris. Though the diversity of students enrolled will determine data collection, students will use Modern Standard Arabic. It is recognized that students will enter the course with different levels of proficiency in written and spoken Modern Standard Arabic, but an intermediate proficiency level is a pre-requisite. Assessment of students will be based on the competencies developed during the semester.

Instructor(s): Mounir Ouanaimi

Prerequisites: Intermediate proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic. Instructor permission required - email mouanaimi@qf.org.

- Open to freshmen and above
- This course carries 0.5 NU-Q units
- Open for cross-registration

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 freshmen and above
- Open for cross-registration

ENGL 103-1 First-Year Writing

The primary goal of this course is to improve writing skills within an academic setting. It is designed to help a student become a more efficient and successful writer by also strengthening skills in reading and analyzing texts. It recognizes that writing is indeed a process. This means that whether a writer starts with a thesis, an outline, or an assigned topic, there will be many steps and missteps involved in producing the final essay. Multiple phases of the writing process will be carried out, such as workshop, peer review, and one-on-one conferences with the instructor. Each semester, a different theme will serve as a focal topic for readings, discussions, and writing assignments.

Instructor(s): Allwyn Tellis / Maria Lombard / TBD

Prerequisites: None

- Mandatory for all first year students

ENGL 242-0 Topics in Literature: Introduction to Short Fiction

One way to define short fiction is that it is imagination distilled down to intensify meaning by way of events. This course will focus on the genre of short fiction (also known as the short story) and consider how imagination and meaning converge into a reflection of ourselves in 10,000 words or less. We will examine the elements of short fiction as well as explore the origins of this genre and its connections to the oral tradition of storytelling. Telling stories—whether they be written or oral—enables individuals to interpret the nature of their world to themselves and gives them a way to ask and answer epistemological and ontological questions in voices and terms that are their own. We will read and consider short fiction from a number of female and male writers of various cultural and ethnic backgrounds with the goal of developing an understanding of what universal truths, realities and values are being constructed, filtered and encoded through this literary form. Central to this course, and to understanding and engaging the literature, will be a critical appreciation of the historical moments that surround the writing. We will look closely at how these short story writers considered themselves in the world and how such consideration reflected their conceptualization of their selfhood and identity. You do not need to have an extensive background in literature to benefit from or be of benefit to this course. It is most important, independent of degree of familiarity and expertise with this body of work, that you come to class prepared and eager to read texts closely, ask and ponder questions and finally, engage others in the classroom community as peers worthy of your respect.

Instructor(s): Tracy Vaughn

Prerequisites: None

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

ENGL 379-0 Special Topics: Analysis of Autobiography

Autobiography is “writing” the “life” of the “self.” (“Auto”--self; “bio”--life; and “graphy”--writing.) Autobiography enables writers to select moments from their pasts and construct their own narratives. The genre of autobiography provides the opportunity for writers to reflect on experiences (funny, interesting, painful, strange, etc) and share them with an audience. In fact, autobiography is one of the most popular genres on best-seller book lists in recent years. This seminar will be a thorough examination of autobiographical writing through the lens of culture and identity. People enjoy reading autobiography (or memoir writing) because it often reveals something about the writer and their construction of identity that is not always apparent. We will consider what is revealed through the way a select group of authors choose to construct their narratives. Specifically, one of the primary objectives of this course will be to acquire a clear understanding of how these autobiographers established a personal and collective identity based on the explorations and expressions of their cultural lineage.

Instructor(s): Tracy Vaughn

Prerequisites: None

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

ENGL 379-0 Special Topics: Literatures of Migration

This is a multi-genre examination of migration and the challenges, as well as opportunities, it poses to the personal and collective identities of those who migrate and those who remain at home. This class will focus primarily on diasporas or communities who have been forced to migrate and consequently, privilege memories of a homeland – real or imagined. Students will read novels, drama, memoirs and/or journalistic

accounts as well as critical essays related to theories of diaspora and related phenomena like exile, globalization and transnationalism. Examples will be drawn from African, Arab, and Asian diasporic communities.

Instructor(s): Sandra Richards

Prerequisites: None

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

History 242-0 Topics in History: Modern European History, 1789-1991

This course explores the major themes of modern European History. It will not cover everything. It is designed to be an analysis of the ideas, people and events that shaped and reshaped Europe from the start of the French Revolution in 1789 to the end of the Cold War in 1991. Our primary focus will be on the transition to what is now called a modern western society.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

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

History 242-0 Topics in History: History of the Modern Middle East

This course familiarizes students with key political developments in the Middle East from the early eighteenth century to the present. Currents of political change affecting the Middle East are contextualized in broader global power struggles, secular and Islamic intellectual influences, social forces, and economic history. Course material covers the heartlands of the Middle East, with particular reference to Turkey, Iran, Egypt, North Africa, and Israel/Palestine.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

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

History 387-0 Popular American Culture

American popular culture is an inescapable force of modern life everywhere. This course will explore the history of American popular culture from 1900 to the present day. Our goal is to look beyond an American history of major events and big names to understand a history from the perspective of lived experience. It will start by considering the basic terms of “popular” and “culture” and how they work together. Within this theoretical framework we will explore the evolution of American popular culture through books, magazines, music, radio, films and television consumed by ordinary men and women.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

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

INTERDIS 100-0 Introduction to NU-Q

The Introduction to NU-Q seminar is a discussion-based course that utilizes readings, visual materials, and short exploratory papers to examine themes relevant to the School’s programs in Communication, Journalism, and Liberal Arts. The course, which meets once a week, is offered on a pass/no pass grading basis and may not be taken for a grade. Emphasis is placed on the identification of ideas and arguments

present in the media and the ability to recognize, challenge, and defend the use of sources and other forms of evidence used by authors and other media producers.

Instructor(s): Andrew Mills & Danielle Beverly

Prerequisites: None

- Open to ABP Dual Students only

INTERDIS 242-0 Introduction to Science and Technology Studies

This course offers a broad overview of issues related to how people use, adapt, or contest scientific knowledge and technology.

Instructor(s): Yulianto (Anto) Mohsin

Prerequisites: None

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

INTERDIS 301-0 Doha Seminar: Behind the Headlines: Context and Meaning of Qatar on the World Stage

This honors course seeks to locate historical contexts and ideological meanings that underpin Qatar's complex and varied approaches to nation building, development, and international influence. Qatar's process of identity making, as with all nations and individuals, is internally contested, subject to cultural hybridities, and often is not received as intended by outsiders. Such continually reworked portraits both respond to immediate concerns and try to strike a chord with deeper cultural memories, traditions of the Gulf and the wider Muslim world whose relationship to Western modernity are still being worked out. This course will examine Qatari and regional debates on religious doctrine, race, class, gender roles, educational change, sports, public art, and media. Guest discussants that are recognized authorities in particular fields will often join classroom exchanges.

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif & Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Permission of the home Academic Dean is required.
- Registration for the course is by nomination of the program/school director

INTERDIS 379-0 Topics in Science and Technology Studies: TBD

Topics vary. May include: Topics in Environmental Studies, Technological and Natural Disasters; Ethical Issues in Health and Medicine.

Instructor(s): Yulianto (Anto) Mohsin

Prerequisites: None

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

Poli_Sci 242-0 Gulf Society and Politics

This class investigates important themes of contemporary Gulf society and politics. The use of oil wealth by the Gulf states has hastened some sociopolitical changes and stagnated others. Studying inclusion and exclusion in citizenship laws and norms gives insight into legal and emotional concepts of national identity and nation building. Exploring the tensions between increased economic and educational opportunities for women and cultural and religious barriers highlights the struggle between modernization and tradition in

the region today. Political readings are combined with literature from the Gulf region. Students should end the class with a better understanding of the rapid development and transformation of Gulf society and politics, and the challenges still facing the region.

Instructor(s): Jocelyn Mitchell

Prerequisites: None

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

Poli_Sci 242-0 Introduction to Middle East Politics

This course focuses on key political issues in the contemporary Middle East, including democracy, Islamism, terrorism, sectarianism, feminism, oil politics, and the international politics of the region and provides an introduction to the different political systems in place around the region.

Instructor(s): Khaled Al Hroub

Prerequisites: None

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

Poli_Sci 387-0 Public Opinion

This course is an overview of public opinion and survey research that increases our students' understanding of how to critically interact with polls in order to measure and analyze public opinion. The course begins with theoretical approaches to measuring and analyzing public opinion, including an overview of new forms of media and communications and their effects on public opinion, and then proceeds to case study research, which varies depending on the expertise of the instructor.

Instructor(s): Jocelyn Mitchell

Prerequisites: None

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

Poli_Sci 387-0 Contemporary Arab Thought

Studies various ideologies and schools of Arab thought from the late 19th century up to current times. The intent of both teaching and class discussion will be to engage with the main principles of these ideologies and their thinkers, their perspectives on the decline of the Arab world and their offerings for revival, approaches to traditional and modern values and structures, and endeavors to (re)formulate a collective identity.

Instructor(s): Khaled Al Hroub

Prerequisites: None

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

Religion 242-0 Sufism

Sufism, sometimes referred to as "the science of the soul's purification" (taṣawwuf) or "Islamic mysticism", has played a critical role in the history of 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. Four time periods covered include: the formative years (600 to 1100 C.E.); the emergence of Sufi orders (1100 to 1400); the institutionalization of Sufism in the late medieval empires (1400 to 1800); and the reform, contestation and revival of Sufism in the modern period (1800 to present).

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

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

Sociology 242-0 Topics in Sociology: Introduction to Sociology

This course offers a broad overview of a range of issues and sociological ways of thinking. Issues may include: interrelations of society, culture, and personality; major social institutions and processes.

Instructor(s): Hasan Mahmud

Prerequisites: None

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

Sociology 387-0 Advanced Topics in Sociology: TBA

Topics vary. May include: classical and contemporary sociological thought; youth cultures, etc.

Instructor(s): Hasan Mahmud

Prerequisites: None

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