

# NU-Q Fall 2016 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 the student 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 should 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

### **MIT 143-0 Acting: Basic Techniques**

This course introduces students to the process of active 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. It also provides students with opportunities for increased risk-taking, innovative exploration, and audience interaction. By exploring a variety of creative resources, students will participate from the perspective of "Actor as Creative Artist and Communicator." The goals of the course are (1) to explore personal identities, experiences, and imagination as creative resources for storytelling; (2) to increase awareness and understanding of human motivations and intentions from a performer's point of view; (3) to investigate creative material through text-based analysis and develop fundamental skills to achieve effective audience communication. By the end of the course students will be able to: (1) demonstrate basic acting skills for re-creating human behavior from an actor's point of view; (2) identify and analyze key elements of dramatic structure in storytelling; (3) utilize creative and critical thinking for generating innovative ideas in storytelling problem-solving; (4) execute basic performance 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 juniors
- Open for cross-registration

## **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 juniors
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media & Politics Minor and Contemporary Media Sequence

## **MIT 214-0 Communication Technology and Society**

The first half of the course will address the smartphone and other more recent digital hardware and software technologies (e.g., the Internet, the World Wide Web, computer games, the physical information infrastructure, Google, WhatsApp, YouTube), along with policy controversies surrounding them, such as commercial and political surveillance, intellectual property and file-downloads, drone applications, "net neutrality", and Internet governance. The second half will explore how human society developed and used communication technologies from the earliest cave paintings and alphabets, through stone carving, clay tablets, papyrus, paper and the printing press; and then the telegraph, cables, telephone, recorded sound, radio, cinema and television. Students will acquire an introductory overview of how society has shaped communication technologies over the course of human history, and how in turn society has been shaped by their uses. They will develop understanding of major policy and analytical controversies surrounding their applications, including issues of access to media technologies and more general arguments concerning the interrelation of economic and political power with technology.

**Instructor(s):** Banu Akdenizli

**Prerequisites:** None

- Sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration

- Satisfies 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 / Kaveh Askari

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to freshmen only
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Contemporary Media Sequence

## 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):** Marco Williams

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to sophomores and above

## MIT 325-0 Film, Media & Gender: Girls' Media Culture \*\*\*CANCELLED\*\*\*

Although media made for girls has long been derided as silly and undeserving of close attention, to the millions of preteen and teen girls who consume it, it is anything but insignificant. From Nancy Drew novels in the 1930s to beach party movies in the 1960s, from 1970s sitcoms such as *The Brady Bunch* to contemporary films and TV shows such as *Whip It*, *Wadjda*, and *Hannah Montana*, girls' media forms have functioned as important historical sites for the negotiation of cultural politics and youthful feminine ideals. In order to shed light on the oft-overlooked history of girls' media in both the U.S. and abroad, this course offers a critical investigation of popular girls' media from the 1930s to the present, including novels, films, TV shows, advertisements, music videos, teen magazines, and toys. We will investigate girls' media

artifacts as commercial and aesthetic texts through which girls have interfaced with lessons about gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, national identity, and generation at different historical moments in both Western and non-Western contexts. We will also consider how the landscape of girls' media production has changed, and resisted change, over time. Finally, we will examine the expansion of female youth culture beyond consumer-oriented activities to those involving girls' cultural production as we consider the possibilities and limits of girl-made and adult-made girls' media.

**Instructor(s):** Kirsten Pike

**Prerequisites:** None

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

### **MIT 335-0 Introduction to Playwriting \*\*\*CANCELLED\*\*\***

This course is designed to develop the writer's individual theatrical style through writing a One-Act play (or scene from a full-length play). Through the practice of writing and investigating plays, students will (1) learn the fundamentals of play construction and theory, (2) explore the elements of dramatic tension, and (3) analyze a variety of plays, performances and exercises to develop a work that best expresses their authentic voice. By the end of the course, students will be able to: (1) Write a One-Act play using proper style and format; (2) Generate character-driven stories that will engage an audience; (3) Provide and receive constructive feedback in order to achieve their best work.

**Instructor(s):** Sue Pak

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to sophomores and above

### **MIT 341-0 Story in Performance**

The emphasis in this course is for students to develop an ability to analyze a dramatic text and create dynamic choices for live performance. Through active investigation and re-creation of classic works from Western dramatic literature, students will study ways to dramatize stories, and learn the fundamental creative skills that are necessary to transform stories into performance. Coursework will concentrate on expanding basic performance skills, such as active listening, improvisation, empathetic response, and spontaneity. The focus of all class work is from the perspective of "The Actor as Storyteller." The goals of the course are (1) to develop knowledge of in-depth text-based analysis and identify essential elements of dramatic structure; (2) to pursue creative and critical research to provide foundation for building dramatic action; (3) to explore creative choices that achieve effective story dramatization and produce engaging scenes. By the end of this course, students will be able to: (1) utilize text-based analysis in investigation of established creative texts and for development of original creative work; (2) identify and interpret dramatic elements from the page to performance; (3) demonstrate knowledge and skills in actualizing dramatic elements to create engaging scenes; (4) apply dramatic analysis and performance skills in other types of presentational situations, as well as in everyday life interactions.

**Instructor(s):** Ann Woodworth

**Prerequisites:** MIT 143-0 or MIT 243-0

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

### **MIT 349-0 Internship**

This seminar provides academic structure and guidance for students doing professional internships. Organizational communication and behavior topics including organizational cultural, working in teams, managing generational differences, effective workplace strategies, leadership and mentoring, work-life

balance, ethics and soft skills, feedback and motivation, technology in the workplace, networking-social and otherwise, and starting life as young professional are covered. Students are evaluated on their weekly written responses to the readings, which should show a clear understanding of the readings as well as thoughtful application to the work site, a written final project and presentation and by their work site supervisor.

**Instructor(s):** Susan Dun

**Prerequisites:** None

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

## **MIT 379-0 Topics in F/V/A Production: Introduction to Digital Cinema**

Introduction to the technology and fundamentals of digital filmmaking. Examination of how digital technology has shaped modern filmmaking, with instruction in shooting, editing, and mastering for digital cinema projection. Students work with the Red Epic digital cinema camera, Phantom Flex digital high-speed camera, Red Cine X Pro, and Adobe Premier.

**Instructor(s):** Geoffrey Cannaby

**Prerequisites:** MIT 190-0

- Open to sophomores and above

## **MIT 388-0 Internet and Society**

The Internet affects every society and culture on earth. This class surveys a range of theoretical, historical and technological issues that the Internet poses to society. At its core, this class asks students to critically think about the question "Who controls the Internet?" Students develop a broad familiarity with a range of issues and problems related to the impact of the Internet on society through directed readings and discussion. Students also hone their research and writing skills through independent research projects on Internet topics of interest throughout the course. The goals of this course are to 1) familiarize students with the macroeconomic, social, and political effects of the internet, 2) develop intellectual curiosity by supporting directed student research and 3) provide students with intellectual frameworks to consider internet policy.

**Instructor(s):** Banu Akdenizli

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to Sophomore and above
- Satisfies Media & Politics Minor and Contemporary Media Sequence

## **MIT 390-0: Directing**

This course is a workshop designed to explore the expressive potential of the camera in dramatic filmmaking. The goal is to explore the relationship between the actor, the setting, and the frame in order to create a clear, powerful experience for viewers. Through the filming/taping of assigned scenes and the screening of film and television clips, the course explores directorial choices, including: staging actors for the camera, visual grammar, framing and movement, coverage, mise-en-scene, editing, and genres.

**Instructor(s):** Marco Williams

**Prerequisites:** MIT 190-0

- Open to MIT sophomores and above

## **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 to today.

**Instructor(s):** Danielle Beverly

**Prerequisites:** MIT 190-0

- Open to MIT sophomores and above

## **MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Alternative Media in the Middle East**

Alternative media in the Middle East is a seminar course examining the diversity of ethnic, political, social, economic, and cultural contexts that often produce media through pirate radio, underground press, independent film, Internet, mobile technologies, and other forms.

**Instructor(s):** Joe Khalil

**Prerequisites:** MIT 212-0 or MIT 270-0 or JOUR 202-0

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

## **MIT 398 Undergraduate Seminar: Women & Documentary**

This course will explore some of the most potent, groundbreaking, funny, inspiring, and thought-provoking international documentaries directed by women. Social justice, autobiographical, cinema verite, hybrid, and traditional forms of documentary are featured to examine topics such as gender, race, art, history, philosophy, and the environment. Arab, Asian, American, Latin American, European, and African women filmmakers are included. From Academy-Award winners, to a girl with a toy camera – you'll find them all in this course. This lecture course requires no production skills. Final projects may be either a research paper, or a digital project.

**Instructor(s):** Danielle Beverly

**Prerequisites:** None

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

## **Journalism Courses**

### **GEN CMN 202-0 News and Numbers**

An introduction to data analysis, data visualization, and statistics as they relate to journalism. Specific attention is given to numerical challenges journalists encounter in news reporting. You will learn basic statistical language and concepts, so you know what you are talking about when discussing research with editors and producers, and when reporting findings to the public. You will learn ways to publish data with visualization software, report on medical and science research, detect fraud in datasets, and clearly report numerical information to a mass audience. You will develop intimate knowledge of SPSS software, one of the world's most widely used data programs.

**Instructor(s):** Justin Martin

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to sophomores and above

## **JOUR 101-0 Introduction to Journalism**

This course provides an overview of journalism fundamentals and will explore how news is defined, reported, written and produced for print, broadcast and online media platforms. Journalism 101 is designed to not only introduce students to journalism, but is tailored to help students begin to develop their own skills in producing content across a variety of platforms for news, sports, business and current affairs.

**Instructor(s):** Marci Brown

**Prerequisites:** None

- ABP students only

## **JOUR 202-0 Journalism in the Digital World**

This course begins your exploration of a field that is constantly transforming yet strives to remain true to a set of time-tested fundamentals. We will explore essential questions about journalism and strategic communication: its purpose(s), its techniques and what makes it valuable. Once those foundations are laid, we will examine digital technology's impact on journalism, including the essential role social media and mobile technology play. In the final weeks, you will work as journalists to cover a real news story from multiple perspectives. Working in a newsroom setting, you will gather information and produce content for social media and mobile platforms.

**Instructor(s):** Andrew Mills (Lec/Lab) / Mary Dedinsky (Lab) / Abraham Abusharif (Lab)

**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 Storytelling: Magazine and Feature Writing**

Students will be introduced to a major part of journalism and creative nonfiction storytelling. You will learn to write various kinds of magazine and feature stories for online and print venues. You will be shown how to develop your feature ideas, build story architecture, and develop your writing style and "voice." You will also learn how to pitch your stories to online and print publishers. You will be shown the basics of producing graphics and audio-visual accompaniments. The class is set up as an "editorial roundtable" in which you develop your story ideas in a collaborative environment.

**Instructor(s):** Abraham Abusharif

**Prerequisites:** JOUR 301-0 with a C or better

- Open to junior and above 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 & Ethics takes a comparative approach, using American jurisprudence as a foundation, to introduce student to the legal and ethical principles needed to engage in responsible communication. In addition to learning the fundamental theories of freedom of expression, students will immerse themselves in the law of defamation, intellectual property and privacy through case studies and in-class exercises that emphasize the application of those principles in a global setting. Throughout the course, attention will be paid to reading primary source materials, including Qatari laws that regulate the media. Using the legal and ethical principles they've learned, students will complete a content production project that explores a legal or ethical topic of their choosing at the conclusion of the semester.

**Instructor(s):** Amy Sanders

**Prerequisites:** None

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

## **STRATCOM 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
- Students who have earned credit for IMC 330-0 or IMC 303 may not earn credit for STRATCOM 303-0

## **STRATCOM 305-0 Message Strategy and Persuasive Communications**

Development of message strategies for communicating with consumers and other audiences. Emphasis on understanding audiences, how persuasion works and how brand communications are developed and executed. Hands-on exercises in writing and using digital and social media for effective communications.

**Instructor(s):** TBA

**Prerequisites:** IMC 330-0 or IMC 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



## **STRATCOM 307-0 Digital, Social and Mobile Marketing**

Focus on the tools, methodologies and programs used by companies to develop, justify, deploy and measure their social and mobile marketing programs. Development of complete social marketing programs for actual companies using best practices, including social monitoring, web analytics, social marketing systems, blogs, Twitter, Google Plus, LinkedIn and other tools.

**Instructor(s):** Ilhem Allagui

**Prerequisites:** None

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

## **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: Intro to Anthro in the Middle East**

This course is a survey course of anthropological concepts and methods using the Middle East as a regional focus. The goal is for students to develop conceptual tools to read societies and use that to read and make sense of their own surroundings. Some anthropological concepts that students will grapple with are cultural relativism, kinship, reciprocity, social structure, religion, and gender.

Students will learn to think critically about the region loosely known as the Middle East, but which may more aptly be called West Asia and North Africa (WANA). The people, their societies, cultures, religions and ways of life, are often stereotyped, misrepresented and misinterpreted in the media and in other corridors of power. How can we study such a vast region to draw more informed conclusions? How can we make sense of the diverse experiences and ways of thought across the many societies? And how can we study the region from within the region? Anthropology is equipped with the tools to think about such questions and unpack the particularities of diverse experiences and ways of life.

**Instructor(s):** Sami Hermez

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Middle East Studies certificate

### **Anthro 379-0: Advanced 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 juniors 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

- Open to freshmen and above
- Instructor permission is required - students should email the instructor for permission to register at: [mounir-ouanaimi@northwestern.edu](mailto:mounir-ouanaimi@northwestern.edu)
- Open for cross-registration
- This course carries 0.5 NU-Q units
- Satisfying Middle East Studies certificate

## **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 sophomores 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 / Bronwyn Jean Bethel / Maria Lombard

**Prerequisites:** None

- Mandatory for all freshmen

## **ENGL 212 Introduction to Drama**

Two inter-related questions animate this introductory course: How does the choice of drama/theatre affect the ways in which a story is told? What are the fundamentals of Western drama?

**Instructor(s):** Sandra L. Richards

**Prerequisites:** None

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

## **ENGL 242-0 Topics in Literature: 20th Century American Literature**

This class will explore the evolution of literary production from the turn of the twentieth century through the turn of the twenty-first. We will read and consider such genres as fiction, poetry, and non-fiction prose with the goal of developing an understanding of what the major political, social and aesthetic concerns were during the twentieth century. We will look closely at how twentieth-century writers fashioned themselves in the world and how such fashioning reflected their conceptualization of their selfhood and identity—specifically the ways in which they identified via race, class, and gender.

**Instructor(s):** Tracy Vaughn

**Prerequisites:** None

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

## **ENGL 379-0 Special Topics: American (Im) Migrant Literature**

America is uniquely a country of immigrants. It is made up of people whose cultural origins are connected to other societies with their own languages, religions, customs, and fundamental values. The American experiment has succeeded in bringing disparate peoples together in a democratic society but sometimes at enormous cost in hardship and disillusionment. The "human" cost of this immigration/migration experience has best been expressed in the fiction written by the people involved. Students will learn how to read closely and critically; how to develop a distinctive voice in their writing; and how to become confident in asking questions and framing persuasive answers. Students will also acquire a technical and critical vocabulary for analyzing various forms of literature and apply this vocabulary to their written analyses. Ultimately, students will have a more nuanced understanding of the sacrifices and benefits; the gains and losses that are all a part of the American immigration experience.

**Instructor(s):** Tracy Vaughn

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to juniors 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 387-0 History Adv Special Topic: Britain and the Middle East**

The British Empire played a major role in creating the world around us. From the middle of the 19th century to the middle of the 20th century Britain tried to control territory from Egypt to the Gulf. Of course, locals had their own ideas. Sometimes local populations worked with the British and sometimes they fought the British. The result was a series of compromises and conflicts that over a hundred years shaped the geography, politics and culture of the modern Middle East. This course explores the origins,

evolution and legacy of that British involvement in the Middle East.

**Instructor(s):** Christopher Sparshott

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Middle East Studies certificate

### **History 387-0 History Adv Special Topic: Islam Shaping African History**

When Muslims in Mecca were a beleaguered few, Africa became the home of the first Muslim community in history. Today Africa may well be the only continent in the world with a Muslim majority. How did Islam come to have such primacy in African history? What are the currents of Islamic thought that have come to shape African lives? How did Africans affect Islamic religious culture? This course aims to answer such questions with an overview of fourteen centuries of Islam in Africa. Although not an exhaustive history, we will outline major historical shifts, consider broad intellectual currents and discuss some of the main historiographical debates surrounding Islam in Africa.

**Instructor(s):** Zachary Wright

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Middle East Studies certificate

### **INTERDIS 242-0 Topics in Science and Technology Studies: Introduction to Science and Technology Studies**

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

**Instructor(s):** Yulianto (Anto) Mohsin

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to freshmen and sophomores

### **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 who 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

- Satisfying Middle East Studies certificate

## **INTERDIS 379-0 Topics in Science and Technology Studies: Energy, Environment, & Society**

This course examines the techno scientific, sociological, historical, cultural, and environmental aspects of our energy production, distribution, and consumption.

**Instructor(s):** Yulianto (Anto) Mohsin

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to juniors and above

## **Poli\_Sci 242-0 Topics in Political Science: Introduction to American Government**

This course provides an introduction to American politics and government. We will explore the history of the US constitution, the three branches of government, the news media, public opinion and political participation, and campaigns and elections. We will follow the American elections with interactive blogs, and end with a comparative and critical perspective on US democracy. An introduction to American politics is essential for students to understand American influence and capacity on foreign policies and current events.

**Instructor(s):** Jocelyn Mitchell

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to sophomore and above

## **Poli\_Sci 242-0 Topics in Political Science: Introduction to Middle East Politics**

This course focuses on key political issues in the contemporary Middle East, spanning national issues such as state formation, type of governance, democracy, Islamism, sectarianism, gender, oil politics; and regional issues such Arab-Israeli conflict, Iran-Iraq war as well as international politics of the region. The course provides an introduction to the different political systems in place around the region, and examines the main players. It starts with analysis of the emergence of the new modern states in the region on the eve of decolonisation, and moves on to analyse forms of rising politics. The course attempts to offer a balanced analysis between salient themes, cases studies, national, regional and international politics pertaining to the Middle East.

**Instructor(s):** Khaled Al Hroub

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Middle East Studies certificate

## **Poli\_Sci 242-0 Topics in Political Science: 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 sophomores
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Middle East Studies certificate

## **Poli\_Sci 387-0 Advanced Topics in Political Science: 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 sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Middle East Studies certificate

## **Religion 387-0 Advanced Topics in Religion Studies: Modern Reform Movement Muslim World**

Political histories of the Middle East frequently neglect the intellectual currents and religious movements preoccupying large segments of the Muslim world. Islamic renewal and reform movements since the nineteenth century have had dramatic effects on the region. This course explores the origin and development of key religious movements such as Wahhabism, Salafism, "neo-Sufism," the Muslim Brotherhood, and millenarian movements. By interrogating the nature of renewal and reform, and the influence of modernity on movements of change, we will evaluate the extent of doctrinal and social change occasioned by such movements in the last two centuries. The course is divided into two parts: nineteenth and twentieth century reform movements. Each section additionally focuses on a separate methodological issue: the first being the definition of reform in Muslim religious thought; and the second being the shape of Islam's dialogue with modernity.

**Instructor(s):** Zachary Wright

**Prerequisites:** None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Middle East Studies certificate

## **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):** TBC

**Prerequisites:** None

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

## **Sociology 387-0 Advanced Topics in Sociology: Globalization and Third World**

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

This course examines the process of globalization especially as it occurs in countries with emerging economies. Discussion will focus on how global connectivity is created and sustained by various institutions and practices including market economy, multinational organizations and ideologies of universalism.

**Instructor(s):** Hasan Mahmud

**Prerequisites:** None

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