

Fall 2020 Honors Course Descriptions

*All courses are subject to change; check Class Search for a definitive list of offerings.
Not all courses listed will be open at the time of your enrollment. Please make sure to base your
schedule off of currently open classes.*

Cultural Visions Courses

Intro to Art History (Dr. Kristine Ronan)	
ARHI 10043-615	This course offers a broad overview of the history of visual arts and focuses on the history of the visual arts with a focus on the relationship between art and its historical and societal contexts. In this regard, the course provides students the tools to understand how art reflects its associated cultures' mores, values, worldview, and sensitivities. These tools would be the skills to describe and analyze the formal and design elements of a work of art and an understanding of how art, in terms of style and subject matter, relates to its cultural circumstances. Students will gain an appreciation of the aesthetic values of these cultures and an understanding of the historical, social, economic, political, and/or religious contexts for the creation of art. Through reading, writing, speaking and seeing, students will enhance their skills in critical thinking and the synthesis of ideas within the discipline of art history.
CA, FAR, Cultural Visions	
Notes: <i>Open to ANY MAJOR. Great class for Studio Art, Graphic Design, Art Education, Art History, and Interior Design majors. Do not take if you made a 3 or higher on the Art History AP exam.</i>	

Engaging Difference/Diversity (Jacinto Ramos)	
CRES 10103-680	Race isn't rocket science, it's harder than rocket science. Why? Because American K-12 school systems do not teach about race and ethnicity. How in the world are we supposed to know the rules of engagement? This is an introductory course to the interdisciplinary field of comparative race and ethnic studies. Students will explore the social construct of race and become familiar with the Courageous Conversations About Race protocol. The class will be highly interactive, include a community visit, and introduce students to people engaging in racial and ethnic equity in Fort Worth, Texas.
CA or CSV , Cultural Visions	
Notes: <i>Open to ANY MAJOR.</i>	

Dance in World Cultures (Lily Sloan)

DANC 10453-650

Students in this course engage in a historical and cross-cultural examination of dance as a fundamental human expression. The course design helps students develop a critical understanding and appreciation of dance as culturally situated in diverse world cultures and how socially constructed notions of gender, class, and race manifest within these dance practices.

CA, FAR, Cultural Visions

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Literature and Civilizations I (Dr. Jill Havens)

ENGL 20913-670

The story of Troy and the Trojan War is among the most influential stories ever told about the Western World. Why has this tale (“the founding story of Europe”) proved so enduring? And why was it considered important to the many artists, writers, and historians who preserved it? In this course we will explore the many retellings of this famous story, starting with the original versions by Homer and Virgil and ending with a recent novel (part of a present and growing trend) that returns us to Homer’s poem while giving voice to the silent victims of that epic, the women. We will look at all of these works to answer questions about the impact and survival of this legendary story of love, honor, war, and betrayal.

LT, HUM, Cultural Visions

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.
Recommended for English majors.*

World Regional Geography (Dr. Jeffrey Roet)

GEOG 10003-635

GEOG 10003-636 (LAB)

GEOG 10003-637 (LAB)

GEOG 10003-638 (LAB)

Regional geography synthesizes human and physical geography to present a holistic portrait of place or a region. We will “visit” Europe, Russia, China, Latin America, Africa, Middle East, and India and study these regions through the eyes of the people who live there. We will also eat at local ethnic restaurants and go on field trips throughout the Metroplex. This course will appeal to students interested in geopolitics, global economics, and ethnic conflict or students who have traveled abroad or wish to travel abroad.

GA, SSC, Cultural Visions

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.
Recommended for Geography majors and minors.
Also recommended for Early Childhood Education majors; it is required for that major.
This is a great class for students who are interested in world travel, international relations, and geopolitics.
Enroll in Lab section 636, 637, or 638.*

College Life and Identity (Dr. Estee Hernandez)

HNRS 20113-645 HNRS 20113-655	Students will examine social justice in the context of leadership and come to understand their unique role in creating social change on campus, in their academic discipline, and within our larger society. In this theory-to-practice and dialogue-heavy course, students will develop and practice skills necessary to be effective in the leadership process. Students will learn from each other's perspectives, read and discuss relevant reading material, and explore their own and other groups' experiences in various social and institutional contexts.
CA, HUM, Cultural Visions	
Notes: <i>Open to ANY MAJOR.</i>	

College Life and Identity (Dr. Whitnee Boyd)

HNRS 20113-674	Students will explore how their identities and life experiences help to shape how they navigate society and make decisions. Students will read and discuss interdisciplinary material related to race, class, gender, education, faith and spirituality, building community, inclusion, and more. Students will be challenged to think critically on how their respective identities connect them with others and how to use their space in society to empower others. Through this time of self-exploration and reflection, students will derive a more holistic understanding of who they are and how they exist amongst the many other people in the community and world around them.
CA, HUM, Cultural Visions	
Notes: <i>Open to ANY MAJOR.</i>	

Language, Communication, & Cultural Identity: The Psychosocial Self (Dr. Randi Proffitt Leyva)

HNRS 20213-615 HNRS 20213-636	What does it mean to become who we are? What language and ideas do we use to make sense of our identity and our lives? What are the biological and psychological milestones of identity development, especially in the transition from childhood, to adolescence, then to emerging adulthood? This seminar-style course introduces students to the concepts, literature, language, and metaphors humans use (such as psychological theories, coming-of-age stories, films, social media, etc.) to understand and define their identity in the world and how they fit into the broader, ever-changing social landscape.
CA, HUM, Cultural Visions	
Notes: <i>Open to ANY MAJOR.</i>	

Gender and Sexuality in History and Literature (Dr. Wendy Williams)

HNRS 20233-647

CA or LT, HUM, Cultural Visions

All social human beings are assigned and perform gender roles; all organized societies also regulate sexuality. By examining gender and sexuality as represented in literature in a specific historical context, this course is designed to help students learn to comprehend, theorize, and analyze systems of gender and sexuality in their own era. Assigned authors will include Oscar Wilde, George Eliot, and Anne Brontë; historical documents will include a newspaper series on child prostitution and the law that sent Wilde to prison.

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Faith and Social Movements (Dr. Andrew Ryder)

**HNRS 20403-641
HNRS 20403-676**

CSV or RT, Cultural Visions

Faith is a practical activity that changes the conception of community and has considerable cultural effects; indeed, it has been crucial in achieving human rights and social justice. This course explores a series of case studies from the Americas, Africa, and the Middle East, driven by the energy and commitment of many thinkers and leaders whose belief systems and activities are shaped by religious faith. Students write papers and present research on contemporary religious problems and practices, and are asked to reflect on their own beliefs and develop them. Course material includes reflection on Black, feminist, and indigenous theologies, as well as attention to ecology, sexuality and gender, Latin American social movements, political Islam, human rights, and contemporary interfaith dialogue.

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Cultural Contact Zones: 21st Century Europe (Dr. Juan Carlos Sola-Corbacho)

**HNRS 20503-610
HNRS 20503-620**

GA, HUM, Cultural Visions

In this class we will focus on the more than 50 European sovereign states and the territories that are only partially recognized as such. Students will make individual presentations on their geography, their people, their culture, their traditions, and their political and economic situation. We will pay particular attention to the political, cultural, social, and economic differences and similarities among them and between Europe and the rest of the world, especially the United States. Students will read, discuss, and write about the latest news and the most important current issues in Europe. They will also research, analyze, and debate migration, gender inequality, and environmental problems in Europe.

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Cultural Contact Zones: U.S. Schooling and American Society (Dr. Lynn Hampton)

HNRS 20503-635
HNRS 20503-645

Through classroom debates, policy discussions, and active learning exercises – students tackle many issues concerning the role of schools and schooling in U.S. society. Some of these issues include: What factors shape how schools are run, how schools are organized, and what curricular materials are taught? How do schools help to maintain and perpetuate social inequality, and how do factors of race, class, and gender affect the educational experiences of students within schools and within classrooms? Discussion of these topics will help to dispel myths about the role of education and schools in modern society.

GA, HUM, Cultural Visions

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Race and Sports (Dr. Frederick Gooding, Jr.)

HNRS 20613-675

Have you ever listened to sports radio? Or watched sports on TV? Or read what someone wrote about sports in the media? If so, then you are in the right course! In this dynamic class, we start with the principle that sports perform an important social function, and consequently so do the images and commentaries generated within and around it. If you're game, we will examine why sports hold such an important place in our culture, explore its mass-market global appeal and then appreciate how race intersects with and affects mainstream portrayals of sports in America.

CSV, HUM, Honors Elective

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Philosophy and Science of Social Justice (Dr. Mikio Akagi)

HNRS 20813-670

Discussions of justice in the 21st century focus increasingly on issues like sexism, racism, transphobia, and ableism. But what are things like race, gender, and disability? Are they biological differences, or are they socially-constructed? Is there such a thing as “implicit” prejudice? Can “equal treatment” sometimes be unjust? In this course we will examine work in the humanities and the sciences, asking how theoretical perspectives can be informed by scientific methods and how theories of social justice can be used to criticize and inform our understanding of science.

CA, HUM, Cultural Visions

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Cultural Memory: HIST Culture (Dr. Ronald Pitcock)

HNRS 20913-615	<i>The life of the dead is placed in the memory of the living. —Cicero</i> How have U.S. citizens, institutions, and politicians used media to interact with and shape a cultural memory of their history? We will consider how memory functions across a range of media, from oral storytelling, to writing, film, and visual arts, to the Internet. We will sharpen our focus by studying archives and memorials—on campus and elsewhere, including Disneyworld and Oklahoma City—and asking which events/people get memorialized in this culture (and which do not) and how memorials work rhetorically.
HT, HUM, Cultural Visions	
Notes: <i>Open to ANY MAJOR.</i>	

Happiness (Dr. Rob Garnett & Dr. Lisa Vanderlinden)

HNRS 30533-656 <i>Also offered as ANTH 30533 – must be in HNRS section for Honors credit</i>	What does it mean to be happy? A pleasant, pain-free life? A life of virtue and meaning? An intentional life enmeshed in community? Students in this team-taught course learn to think critically and cross-culturally about different ways of defining and living a good life. Informed by psychology, philosophy, and neuroscience while anchored by the disciplinary perspectives of anthropology and economics, this course uses multiple modes of engagement (experiential learning, biography, film, academic articles, and lots of Socratic discussion) to explore topics such as the nature of “flow,” lessons from Blue Zones for human well-being, tensions between autonomy and community, connections (subtle and overt) between well-being and inequality, how culture shapes our concepts and experiences of happiness, and the paradoxical complexity of pursuing happiness, as a personal goal or as a measure of societal well-being.
CA, Cultural Visions	
Notes: <i>Open to ANY MAJOR.</i>	

Mind, Meaning, and Morality (Dr. Richard Galvin & Dr. Blake Hestir)

PHIL 10103-630	Students in this course explore various conceptions of mind, meaning, and morality from the ancient Greeks to the contemporary world, with particular attention to the metaphysical and ethical questions, “What (who) are we?” “How should we live?” and “What makes our lives meaningful?” Answers from various figures in Western and Eastern thought are compared, discussed, and evaluated, offering students the opportunity to consider their conceptions of themselves as individuals and as human beings.
CSV, HUM, Cultural Visions	
Notes: <i>Open to ANY MAJOR.</i> <i>Recommended for students majoring or minoring in Philosophy.</i>	

Understanding Religion: Communities - South Asian Religions (Dr. Antoinette DeNapoli)

RELI 10023-615	Through use of primary and secondary texts, films, poetry, art, and music, this course introduces the four dominant religions of South Asia: Hinduism, Buddhism (Theravada, Mahayana and Tibetan), Jainism, and Sikhism. We explore the histories, cultures, institutions, practices, and people of these religions, learning about them from both outsider (academic) and insider (indigenous) perspectives. The indigenous approach enables students to understand these religions as their practitioners understand, experience, interpret, and live them—that is, to “see” the world as a Hindu, Buddhist, Jain, or Sikh might see and experience it.
RT, HUM, Cultural Visions	

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Understanding Religion: Communities – World Religions (Dr. Mark Dennis)

RELI 10023-620	This course offers an introduction to the teachings and histories of religious traditions mainly from Asia and the Middle East: Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sikhism from India, Confucianism and Daoism from China, and Islam from Saudi Arabia. The course begins with a general discussion of the Humanities, critical thinking in the liberal arts, and theories of religion. The rest of the semester is devoted to case studies illustrating the intersection of religion and free speech, violence, and other fascinating topics. Those cases include the cartoons depicting the prophet Muhammad and the protests of the Westboro Baptist Church as well as Tibetan self-immolations, the Mumbai attacks, and others.
RT, HUM, Cultural Visions	

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Honors Elective Courses

Introductory Biology I (Dr. Laura Luque and Dr. Matthew Hale)

BIOL 10503-602
BIOL 10503-610
BIOL 10503-620
BIOL 10501-646 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-647 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-648 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-649 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-650 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-651 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-652 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-653 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-654 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-655 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-656 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-657 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-658 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-659 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-660 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-661 (LAB)
BIOL 10501-662 (LAB)

Honors Elective

Notes: *Recommended for BIOL majors and Pre-Health/Pre-Med students.*

Intro Microeconomics (Dr. Zack Hawley)

ECON 10223-605
ECON 10223-615

SSC, Honors Elective

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*
Recommended for Pre-Business and Economics majors.
Do not take if you made a 4 or 5 on the AP Microeconomics exam.

Intro to Astronomy: Earth and Planets (Dr. Richard Bonde)

PHYS 10273-630*
***Enroll in a PHYS 10273 LAB**

GA, NSC, Honors Elective

Notes: *This class meets with a non-Honors section.*
Open to ANY MAJOR. Must enroll in a LAB section also.

Intro to Astronomy: Earth and Planets (Dr. Douglas Ingram)

PHYS 10273-640*

*Enroll in a PHYS 10273 LAB

GA, NSC, Honors Elective

Notes: *This class meets with a non-Honors section.
Open to ANY MAJOR. Must enroll in a LAB section also.*

Physics I with Lab: Mechanics - Honors (Dr. Yuri Strzhemechny)

PHYS 20474-615*

*Enroll in a PHYS 20474 LAB

NSC, Honors Elective

Notes: *This class meets with a non-Honors section.
Calculus-based Physics for Engineering and Physics majors. Must enroll in a LAB section also.*

International Politics (Dr. Carrie Currier)

POSC 20303-610

GA or CA, SSC, Honors Elective

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.
Recommended for students majoring or minoring in Political Science.*

Principles of Behavior I (Dr. Tracy Centanni)

PSYC 10514-635

PSYC 10514-636 (LAB)

***Department permit required**

NSC, Honors Elective

Notes: *This class meets with a non-Honors section.
Open to ANY MAJOR as a Core Natural Science. Must enroll in PSYC 10514 LAB also.
Recommended for Neuroscience majors.
If you made a 4 or 5 on the AP Psychology exam, this class will replace the AP Psychology credit.*

Understanding Religion: Texts and Ideas – The Qur’an (Dr. Samuel Ross)

RELI 10033-630

RT, HUM, Honors Elective

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Understanding Religion: Society and Culture – Memoir and Meaning (Dr. Darren Middleton)

RELI 10043-656

RT, HUM, Honors Elective

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR.*

Survey of Musical Theatre (Dr. Jessica Humphrey)

THEA 11013-620

THEA 11013-622 (LAB)

FAR, Honors Elective

Notes: *Open to ANY MAJOR. Must also enroll in THEA 11013 LAB*