Spring 2019 First-Year Seminar Course Descriptions

These courses are only open to students who have not completed their First-Year Seminar requirement.

STANDARD LEVEL

40702 ENG 158-A, FYS: Whose Ireland? Writing the Immigrant Experience

4 credits

Prof. E. Chase

This seminar explores the concept of Irishness through the work of writers born in Ireland and those who immigrated into Ireland in the wake of the Celtic Tiger and the formation of the European Union. We will ask: How has what it means to be "Irish" changed after key moments in Irish history? Who "counts" as Irish? Is Irishness a geographic designation, a cultural concept, a political tool, or a literary construct? By examining seminal works by authors such as W.B. Yeats in conversation with contemporary authors including Oona Frawley and Melatu Uche Okorie, students will practice close reading of texts to form compelling arguments about the interactions between the nation, race, ethnicity, and literature.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

40616 HIS 124-A, FYS: History of American Freedom

4 credits

Prof. J. Rodrigue

This course examines the idea of freedom in U.S. history from the American Revolution to the present. It focuses on how this idea, so central to American identity, has evolved and has been contested throughout the nation's history.

Fulfills the History Cornerstone requirement.

40174 PHL 114-A, FYS: Our Bodies, Ourselves

4 credits

Prof. M. Mitchell

This course explores some of the questions that are raised by recognizing that we are not just minds- we are embodied creatures. How should we organize society to provide for our bodily needs? Should we worry about the death of our bodies? Are our minds and our bodies really different? Open to First-Year Students only.

Fulfills the Philosophy Cornerstone requirement.

40374 REL 112-A, FYS: Saints and Sinners in Church History

4 credits

Prof. R. Gribble, CSC

Saints and sinners, much like victors and vanquished in war, are often determined by those who triumph in Church conflicts. This course will address several Church controversies throughout the 2000 years of its history, review the issues and debates that arose through the reading of primary and secondary sources, and who in the end were considered victors, saints, and the vanquished, sinners, in Church history.

Fulfills the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.

CENTRIC LEVEL (Offers Enhanced Writing support)

40709 WRI 110-A, FYS: Writing in New Media

4 credits

Prof. H. Sadler

Let's face it, writing in the 21st century is accomplished online. This course explores reading and writing across social media and other web spaces through genre study, cultural analysis, and real-world practice. Through posts, tweets, blogs, emails, and texts students will hone valuable skills necessary in the twenty-first century thought-place. Creating web-based resumes and professional avatars will also be discussed. Course may be applied to the American Studies program. This course provides enhanced writing support. Open to First-Year Students only.

40710 WRI 111-A, FYS: The Supernatural in Contemporary Pop Culture

4 credits

Prof. S. Morris

We live in a world haunted by the fantastic. Vampires, werewolves, witches, fairies, ghosts, and even caped crusaders invade our everyday lives through entertainment media and advertising. This course will look at how these familiar creatures evolved and what they can teach us about history, culture, and ourselves. This course provides enhanced writing support.

Open to First-Year Students only.

40711 WRI 141-A, FYS: Introduction to College Writing Prof. B. Troupe

4 credits

This workshop-based course is designed for students who wish to practice and develop the essential skills of writing, critical reading, and textual analysis at the college level. Instructors provide extensive feedback on assignments, helping students to gain more confidence with grammar, sentence structure, and the writing process. This course provides enhanced writing support. Open to First-Year Students only.