The courses in this document are special topics courses which will be offered during specific semesters; they are arranged alphabetically by course designator. Descriptions only include prerequisites additional to those enumerated in the 2007-2009 Undergraduate Bulletin; be sure to check the Bulletin for standing prerequisites.

This list is continually being updated. Twice during the year (roughly November 1 and April 1) the entire Bulletin (including this Supplement) is archived. That is, a "snapshot" of the Bulletin is taken and saved for reference. These dated archives serve as official records of the Bulletin as it changes semester by semester.

Spring 2009
Fall 2008
Spring 2008
Fall 2007
Special Topics for Spring 2009

AAS
Asian and Asian American Studies

AAS 212-G Asian and Asian American Studies Topics in the Humanities
Topic for Spring 2009: Lit./Myths Ancient Mesopotamia

AAS 386-J Topics in Asian Philosophy
Topic for Spring 2009: Relativism East and West

AAS 391-G Humanities Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies
Topics for Spring 2009:
Section 01: Indian Buddhist Philosophies
Section 02: Mystics in Medieval India
Section 03: South Asian-American Contemporary Performance and Film

AAS 392-F Social Science Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies
Topic for Spring 2009: India in the New World Order

CLT
Comparative Literature

CLT 220-J Literature Beyond European Traditions
Topic for Spring 2009: Lit. On the Contact Zones

CLT 362-G Literature and Ideas
Topic for Spring 2009: Chick Lit Egg Idea

EGL
English

EGL 322-G Modern and Contemporary Literature
Topic for Spring 2009: Contemporary British Literature

EGL 348-G Major Writers of the Romantic Period in England
Topic for Spring 2009: Affection & Desire in Jane Austen

EGL 352-G Major Writers of 20th-Century Literature in English
Topic for Spring 2009: Great American Authors

EGL 367-G Contemporary African-American Literature
Topic for Spring 2009: 21st Cent African Am Poet/Frse

EGL 372-G Topics in Women and Literature
Topics for Spring 2009:
Section 01: Ecofeminism
Section 02: Representations of Mothering

EGL 373-G Literature in English in Relation to Other Disciplines
Topic for Spring 2009: Globalism and Short Fiction

EGL 390 Topics in Literary and Cultural Studies
Topic for Spring 2009: Queer Studies in Literature

HIS
History

HIS 301 Reading and Writing History
Topic for Spring 2009: History of New York City

HIS 340-J Topics in Asian History
Topic for Spring 2009: Colonial South Asia

HIS 393-I Topics in Modern European History
Topic for Spring 2009: Sexual Politics of 20th Century Europe

HIS 394-H Topics in History of Medicine and Reproduction
Topic for Spring 2009: History of Public Health

HIS 396-K&4 Topics in U.S. History
Topics for Spring 2009:
Section 05: Women & Witchcraft in Colonial America

HIS 398-H Topics in History of Science and Technology
Topics for Spring 2009:
Section 01: Ecological History of North America
Section 02: Energy Regimes in Global History

HIS 402 Colloquium in European History
Topics for Spring 2009:
Section 01: Women, Militants & the Vote
Section 02: Radical Right in Europe & Israel

HIS 411 Colloquium in American History
Topic for Spring 2009: Natural History & Colonization of the Americas

HIS 431 Colloquium in Asian History
Topic for Spring 2009: Women in Modern Japan

HUE
European Literature and Culture Courses in English

HUE 269-I Topics in Contemporary Slavic Culture
Topic for Spring 2009: Poland: Cinema and Society

SUPPLEMENT: SPECIAL TOPICS

2
**HUI**  
**Italian Literature and Culture Courses in English**

**HUI/EUR 390-G Italian-American Studies in the Humanities**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Migration in Literature*

**JRN**  
**Journalism**

**JRN 390 Special Topics: Issues in Contemporary Journalism**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: The Press During War Time*

**PHI**  
**Philosophy**

**PHI 401-G Individual Systems of the Great Philosophers (I)**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Intersection of Metaphysics, Ethics, Aesthetics*

**POL**  
**Political Science**

**POL 391 Seminar in Advanced Topics**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Terrorism and Counterterrorism*

**POL 403 Seminar in Advanced Topics**  
*Topics for Spring 2009:  
Section 01: Leadership & Rhetoric  
Section 02: Radical Right in Europe & Israel*

**SOC**  
**Sociology**

**SOC 390 Special Topics**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Sociology of Identity*  
A sociological analysis of the identities that people feel themselves to be, the identities that they claim to be, and the identities that others attribute to them. Topics include: the negotiation of identities in interactional settings; factors affecting the formation, maintenance and change of identities; and identity and the life course.

**SOC 392 Special Topics**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Healthcare Delivery*  
The course provides undergraduate students with an introduction to our health care system. The focus of the course is upon the organization and component aspects of the system. Particular attention is paid to the effects of this system on the patient, the provider, the institutions of the system and the general community. The health systems of other countries are used as comparative models and to foster an appreciation of other alternatives.

**SOC 395 Special Topics**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Medicine and Science*  
Americans have great faith in physicians to cure their diseases and prolong their lives. In part, this is because medical practice is supposed to be based upon scientific research. This course focuses on the role of scientific research as an influence on medical practice. We will discuss science in general and show how research frontier science is not based upon theories and evidence on which there is consensus. In general the course aims at using sociological explanations to show how science interacts with the physician's experience in determining how they practice medicine.

**SPN**  
**Spanish Language and Literature**

**SPN 405 Issues in Hispanic Cultural Studies**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Latina Fiction*  
In this course we will survey novels by Latin writers, focusing on language and gender. Authors included are: Helena Viramontes They Brought Their Dogs with Them, Angie Cruz, Let It Rain Coffee, Sandra Cisneros, Caramelo, Irene Vilar, The Ladies Gallery, Linda Nieves Powell, Free Style, and Ana Castillo, So Far from God.

**SPN 435-Skill 3 Topics in Latin American Literature from the Colonial Period to the Present**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Orientalism in Contemporary Latin American Literature*  
This course proposes that Orientalism is an important and constitutive discourse in contemporary Latin American literature that helps shape a Latin American understanding not only of "Orient" as a geopolitical, cultural and racial entity, but also of Latin America itself. We will address these questions by engaging in close readings of diverse literary texts.

**WST**  
**Women's Studies**

**WST 394-H Special Topics in Medicine, Reproduction, and Gender**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Psychology of Reproduction*

**WST 395 Topics in Global Feminism**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Global Feminism (3rd world)*

**WST 398 Topics in Gender, Race, and Ethnicity**  
*Topic for Spring 2009: Cultural Memories of US Feminism*
### AAS
#### Asian and Asian American Studies

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title and Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>AAS 386-J</td>
<td>Topics in Asian Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic for Fall 2008:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 01: Buddhism and Early Veddanta Philosophy</td>
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<td>Section 02: Philosophy of Religion</td>
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### ECO
#### Economics

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<th>Course Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>ECO 354</td>
<td>Special Topics in Economics</td>
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<td>Topic for Fall 2008: Economics of Education and Human Capital</td>
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This course provides an introduction to the economic theory of human capital, which along with the micro-economic concepts on incentives, will enable students to apply the economic analysis in various topics of education. Empirical methodology will be taught for the exploration of related issues. Areas to be covered include parental investment in children, investment and returns to education, high education finance, the role of human capital in economic growth and governmental intervention in education policy. *Prerequisite for Spring 2008: C or higher in ECO 303*

### EUR
#### European Studies

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<th>Course Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>EUR/HUI 390-I</td>
<td>Special Topics in European Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic for Fall 2008: Nation, Colony, Migration</td>
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A study of the interrelation of the three overpowering social forces in the XIX Century, starting from the Congress of Vienna and extending to the eve of World War I. For nationalism focus will be on Italy, France, Germany, Greece and England; for colonialism, Africa; for migration, North and South America. *Prerequisite: U3 / U4 standing*
HIS 397-K4 Topics in History of U.S. Immigration and Ethnicity
Topic for Fall 2008: US Immigration and Ethnicity

HIS 402 Colloquium in European History
Topic for Fall 2008: Autobiography and History

HIS 411 Colloquium in American History
Topic for Fall 2008: US Immigration and Ethnicity

HIS 414 Colloquium in American History
Topic for Fall 2008: Streaking Through the 70’s

HIS 431 Colloquium in Asian History
Topic for Fall 2008: Indian Ocean in World History

HIS 461 Colloquium in the History of Science
Topics for Fall 2008:
Section 01: Global Energy Transitions
Section 02: Gender and the Democratic State

HUI
Italian Literature and Culture
Courses in English

HUI 331-G Italian Literature
Topic for Fall 2008: Travel and Identity in Italian Literature
The metaphor and experience of the journey as literary identity: This course will investigate the construction of the Italian self through travel from the Middle Ages to the present as seen through novels, poems, travelogues, journals, graphic novels and movies by, among others, Petrarca, Poli, Columbus, Verazzano, Casanova, Da Ponte, Borgese, Calvino, and Rossellini.

HUI/EUR 390-G Italian-American Studies in the Humanities
Topic for Fall 2008: Nation, Colony, Migration
A study of the interrelation of the three overpowering social forces in the 19th Century, starting from the Congress of Vienna and extending to the eve of World War I. For nationalism focus will be on Italy, France, Germany, Greece and England; for colonialism, Africa; for migration, North and South America.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

ITL
Italian

ITL 435 Studies in Contemporary Literature
Topic for Fall 2008: Italian Fantastic Literature
This course intends to explore the literary trend of the Fantastic in modern Italian literature and culture. Authors such as Aldo Palazzeschi, Alberto Savinio, Massimo Bontempelli, Antonio Delfini, and Italo Calvino will be studied in relation to the literary theories of Surrealism, and in relation to their interdisciplinary influence. Particular attention will be given to the themes of "Humour Noir", Sex, Death, Fear, and Dream. Lectures will include, occasionally, slides and videos.

JRN
Journalism

JRN 390 Special Topics: Issues in Contemporary Journalism
Topic for Fall 2008: The Press and Presidential Politics
This course examines how the press covers presidential campaigns—from Kennedy to Bush—set against the backdrop of the 2008 election. Students will explore the changing relationship between political figures and the news media and examine how candidates attempt to shape public opinion. Students will hear from political reporters and experts on presidential politics. Reading includes Theodore White’s “The Making of A President 1960” and other relevant material. Issues to be explored include the boundaries of covering a candidate’s private life, the growing impact of the Internet on campaigns and the key role that television plays.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

PHI
Philosophy

PHI 386-J Topics in Asian Philosophy
Topic for Fall 2008:
Section 01: Buddhism and Early Vendra
Philosophy
Section 02: Philosophy of Religion

PHI 400 Individual Systems of the Great Philosophers
Topic for Fall 2008: Heidegger Being and Time

PHI 435 Senior Seminar
Topic for Fall 2008: History of Political Thought

POL
Political Science

POL 403 Seminar in Advanced Topics
Topic for Fall 2008: Leadership and Rhetoric

RLS
Religious Studies

RLS 380-G Islamic Classics
Topic for Fall 2008: The Soft Path to Rumi

SOC
Sociology

SOC 390 Special Topics
Topic for Fall 2008: Sociology of Sport
Sport permeates all aspects of a global and contemporary society, including our economy, health status, educational situation, community setting, language, and cultural parameters such as ethnicity, race, class, status, and gender. This class will investigate how relevant sociological theories can be applied to aspects of the sport experience in an effort to understand the immense role that sport and physical activity plays in our daily lives.

Spring 2009
Special Topics for Spring 2008

**AAS**

Asian and Asian American Studies

**AAS 212-G** Asian and Asian American Studies Topics in the Humanities
Section 01 Topic for Spring 2008: Great Books of India
Section 02 Topic for Spring 2008: Origins of Myths in Human Society
Section 03 Topic for Spring 2008: Introduction to Asian Thought

**AAS 391-G** Humanities Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies
Section 01 Topic for Spring 2008: Preservation of World Cultural Heritage
Section 02 Topic for Spring 2008: Desi: Indian Diaspora
Section 03 Topic for Spring 2008: God in Indian Philosophy
Section 04 Topic for Spring 2008: Empire Writ Bk: Ind Lit in Eng
Section 05 Topic for Spring 2008: Sanskrit Drama and Poetry in Translation

**AAS 392-F** Social Science Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies
Topic for Spring 2008: Buddhism and Psychoanalysis

**AAS 401** Senior Seminar in Asian and Asian American Studies

**ARS**

Special Topics in Studio Theory and Practice
Section 01 Topic for Spring 2008: Art for the Public
Section 02 Topic for Spring 2008: Metal Casting

**ARS 492** Special Topics in Studio Theory and Practice
Topic for Spring 2008: Animation

**CCS**

Cinema and Cultural Studies

**CCS 401** Senior Seminar in Cinema and Cultural Studies
Topic for Spring 2008: Minority Cinema in Europe

**CLT**

Comparative Literature

**CLT 335-G** Interdisciplinary Study of Film
Topic for Spring 2008: Multicultural Fiction

**ECO**

Economics

**ECO 353** Special Topics in Economics
Topic for Spring 2008: Economics of Social Insurance
An introduction to social insurance policy through a general analysis of some of the major social insurance programs in the U.S. and an assessment of the underlying values that contributed to the evolution of these programs. Topics will cover government-based and market-based insurance policies in the area of health, disability, education, unemployment and retirement issues. In addition, the processes by which social policies are developed, debated, adopted, administered and refined will be examined. The course will include a broad overview of social policy issues that will likely continue to be the focus of national debate during the next decade and beyond. Each student will be given the opportunity to explore the complexities of a specific policy and develop skills to analyze, assess and offer recommendations for policy development and improvement.
Prerequisite for Spring 2008: C or higher in ECO 303

**ECO 354** Special Topics in Economics
Topic for Spring 2008: Economic Growth
Economic growth is essential for societies if they hope to increase the standard of living for themselves and especially for their children. But what causes or helps economies to grow? Why do some economies grow, while others languish? What are the essential elements that drive economic growth? These questions and more will be at the center of this course. We will review various models of economic growth, which look at technology, capital intensity and productivity as engines of growth. We will consider growth rates of countries around the world, and the debate about the global convergence of growth.
Prerequisite for Spring 2008: C or higher in ECO 305

**FRN**

French Language and Literature

**FRN 434-Skill 3** Studies in 18th-Century Literature
Topic for Spring 2008: The Salons in 18th Century France: Domestic, Artistic, and Social Perspectives

**HIS**

History

**HIS 301** Reading and Writing History
Section 01 Topic for Spring 2008: Atlantic Revolutions
Section 02 Topic for Spring 2008: Social History of Advice
Section 03 Topic for Spring 2008: Working Class Politics
Section 04 Topic for Spring 2008: Environmental History of Latin America

**HIS 380-J** Topics in Latin-American History
Topic for Spring 2008: Race and Nation in LA

**HIS 390-I** Topics in Ancient and Medieval Europe
Topic for Spring 2008: Medieval France
**HIS 393** Topics in Modern European History
Section 01 Topic for Spring 2008: Colonialism and Imperialism
Section 02 Topic for Spring 2008: Germany Since 1945
Section 03 Topic for Spring 2008: Victorian Britain
HIS 396-K Topics in U.S. History  
Section 01 Topic for Spring 2008: Inequality in the Modern Corporate Age

Section 02 Topic for Spring 2008: Slavery in the Atlantic World

Section 03 Topic for Spring 2008: Women, Dystopia, Utopia

Section 04 Topic for Spring 2008: The End of the 20th Century

HIS 398 Topics in History of Science and Technology  
Topic for Spring 2008: Plants, Animals, and Pathogens

HIS 401 Colloquium in European History  
Topic for Spring 2008: Ancient Empires and Cultural Change

HIS 402 Colloquium in European History  
Topic for Spring 2008: Museums and History

HIS 411 Colloquium in American History  
Topic for Spring 2008: American Landscapes

HIS 414 Colloquium in American History  
Topic for Spring 2008: Suburbanism in International Perspectives

HIS 431 Colloquium in Asian History  
Topic for Spring 2008: Hollywood, China, and the Chinese

HUE European Literature and Culture Courses Taught in English  
HUE 269-I Topics in Contemporary Slavic Culture  
Section 01 Topic for Spring 2008: Modern Poland  
Section 02 Topic for Spring 2008: Love

ITL Italian  
ITL 435-Skill 3 Studies in Contemporary Literature  
Topic for Spring 2008: Italian Decadentism

JRN Journalism  
JRN 390 Special Topics: Issues in Contemporary Journalism  
Topic for Spring 2008: The Press and Presidential Politics

This course examines how the press covers presidential campaigns—from Kennedy to Bush—against the backdrop of the 2008 election. Students will explore the changing relationship between political figures and the news media and examine how candidates attempt to shape public opinion. Students will hear from political reporters and experts on presidential politics. Readings include Theodore White’s “The Making of a President 1960” and other relevant mate-

JPN Japanese Language  
JPN 332-G Humanities Topics in Japanese Studies  
Topic for Spring 2008: Japanese Literature in the Meiji Era

LIN Linguistics  
LIN 426 Special Topics in Linguistics  
Topic for Spring 2008: Perceptions of Dialects

LIN 427 Special Topics in Linguistics  
Topic for Spring 2008: Error Analysis

LIN 431 The Structure of an Uncommonly Taught Language  
Topic for Spring 2008: Structure of Georgian

POL Political Science  
POL 402 Seminar in Advanced Topics  
Topic for Spring 2008: Political Economy: Market and Government Failures

RLS Religious Studies  
RLS 390-G Special Topics  
Topic for Spring 2008: Immortality and Eternal Life

SOC Sociology  
SOC 390 Special Topics  
Topic for Spring 2008: The Sociology of Identity

A sociological analysis of the identities that people feel themselves to be, the identities that they claim to be, and the identities that others attribute to them. Topics include: the negotiation of identities in interactional settings; factors affecting the formation, maintenance and change of identities; and identity and the life course.

SOC 391 Special Topics  
Topic for Spring 2008: Sociology of Aging

The number and proportion of the elderly among the world population is increasing. In the US alone, older adults are expected to make up nearly one quarter of the population by the year 2020. The Sociology of Aging is a course to focus on the meaning of this particular demographic group and what the changes in this cohort really mean. The elderly haven’t only grown in number, they have changed in value here in the US and abroad. They are, despite our desire to make them into one homogeneous group, a rather socially and economically mixed lot. Still, using the sociological perspective, there are a number of factors which connect the elderly, one to each other, in experience both real and imagined. This course will explore the meaning of being old in the US and outside and the consequences of their demographics, both to those who are old and to those of us who hope to postpone the inevitable aging process. Some attention in the course will be on the important political and economic questions surrounding health care reform debates.

SOC 392 Special Topics  
Topic for Spring 2008: Sociology of Masculinity

This course will begin to unravel the mystery behind "men's lives." We will look at the life experiences, emotions, physical responses, ideas, and aspirations of men as they interact with women, with each other, and with themselves. We will use a "life-course" perspective to understand the way men's lives change over time, observing men as they grow up, learn and play with other boys, go to school, discover and experience their sexualities, enter families, become fathers, and grow older.

WST Women's Studies  
WST 392 Special Topics in Women and Science  
Topic for Spring 2008: Cultures of Disability

WST 394 Special Topics in Medicine, Reproduction, and Gender  
Topic for Spring 2008: Women and Healthcare in the U.S.

WST 395 Topics in Global Feminism  
Topic for Spring 2008: Global Feminist Activism

WST 396 Special Topics in the History of American Women  
Topic for Spring 2008: Women, Utopia, and Dystopia

WST 399 Topics in Gender, Race, and Ethnicity  
Topic for Spring 2008: Race, Class, Gender & Health

WST 399 Topics in Gender and Sexuality  
Topic for Spring 2008: Transgender Theories and Cultures

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Special Topics for Fall 2007

AAS
Asian and Asian American Studies

AAS 391-G Humanities Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies
Topic for Fall 2007: Indo-Tibetan Buddhism

ANP
Physical Anthropology and Primatology

ANP 391 Topics in Physical Anthropology
Topic for Fall 2007: Human Origins

ANP 403 Problems in Physical Anthropology
Topic for Fall 2007: Controversial Issues

ANT
Cultural Anthropology and Archaeology

ANT 393-F Topics in Archaeology
Topic for Fall 2007: Introduction to Ethnobotany

ANT 394-F Topics in Archaeology
Topic for Fall 2007: African Peoples and Cultures

This course surveys Africa's immense cultural diversity in present and recent times. After covering the historical environmental, and linguistic geography of Africa, we will explore rural African livelihoods (hunting/gathering, pastoralism, farming) and the rise of urbanism. Modern African religious, art, cuisine, and music will be showcased in lectures, study trips, and other activities. Finally, students will examine Indigenous vs. Euro-American perspectives on major historic and contemporary social issues. The course will conclude with a discussion of the future of Africa's cultural heritage.

ANT 401 Problems in Social and Cultural Anthropology
Topic for Fall 2007: Ethnographic Classes

This course consists of class discussions on classic texts and monographs dealing with the analysis of ethnographic works in social anthropology. Among the books discussed are: Witchcraft, Oracles and Magic among the Azande, Nuer Religion, Social Anthropology, Akwe-Shavante Society, and Arogounts of the Western Pacific. Class participation is essential in this course.

ANT 402 Problems in Archaeology
Topic for Fall 2007: Research Design in Archaeology

An examination of the ways in which archaeologists develop successful research strategies for arriving at answers to the key questions in the field. Students will analyze grant proposals which received funding from the major sources of funding for archaeology before developing research proposals of their own. The aim of the course is to provide students with the skills necessary to prepare them for conducting individual research projects.

ARH
Art History

ARH 390-I Topics in European Art
Topic for Fall 2007: Leonardo Da Vinci

CCS
Cinema and Cultural Studies

CCS 401 Senior Seminar in Cinema and Cultural Studies
Topic for Fall 2007: Cosmopolitanism

CLT
Comparative Literature

CLT 220-I Non-Western Literature
Topic for Fall 2007: The Subcontinent Speaks: Twentieth Century South Asian Literature

How does a nation "de-colonize" itself, and can a newly independent country shake itself free of colonial influence? This course will focus on literature from South Asia, exploring representations of India and Pakistan in their emergence in the twentieth century as independent nations, and in their complicated projects of nation building. Authors will include M. Forster, Salman Rushdie, Arundhati Roy, and Rohinton Mistry.

CLT 335-G Interdisciplinary Study of Film
Topic for Fall 2007: Conspiracy Theory and Paranoia in Literature and Film

This course will explore some of the most important postwar literary and cinematic representations of conspiracy and paranoia on two main topics: the Cold War and the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Issues to be discussed include important characteristics of the genre as well as the representation of history in the arts.

CLT 361-G Literature and Society
Topic for Fall 2007: Literature and Ethics

This course introduces students to the relationships between literature and ethics. It will examine the influence of ethical values on literature, and vice versa. Specifically, we will examine the changing ethical standards concerning environment, gender relations, and bioethics. Texts include contemporary fictions by Margaret Atwood, Marge Piercy, Jane Smiley, as well as writings in ethics.

CLT 362-G Literature and Ideas
Topic for Fall 2007: To be announced

DAN
Dance

DAN 353 Special Topics in Dance
Topic for Fall 2007: Christian Theology and the Body

This course will examine the relationship between "The Word and the Flesh" through a Reformed Christian theological perspective. Through a sampling of historical and contemporary writing, the course will examine the world religion of Christianity through thought and action. This course will be taught through lectures, workshops, discussion groups and performance. Students will be encouraged to examine systems of belief for the purpose of understanding how they might be constructed into a living, active visible practice of intelligence, purpose and process. Reading selections pulled from historical texts, contemporary writings, and the Bible will be required. There will be a midterm, final exam and final performance program.

EGL
English

EGL 321-G Modern and Contemporary Literature
Topic for Fall 2007: Contemporary British Literature and Film

EGL 352-G Major Writers of 20th-Century Literature in English
Topic for Fall 2007: Frost and Dickinson

EGL 369-G Topics in Ethnic American Studies in Literature
Topic for Fall 2007: American Women Writers
EGL 378-J Contemporary Native American Fiction
Section 01, Topic for Fall 2007: Erdrich & Sherman

EGL 390-G, 393-G Topics in Literary and Cultural Studies
Section 02, Topic for Fall 2007: Postmodernism: Beyond
Section 01, Topic for Fall 2007: Selfishness and Unselfishness

EGL 399-K Topics in American Literary and Cultural Studies
Topic for Fall 2007: Representations of Asia in American Literature and Film

FRN
French Language and Literature
FRN 433-Skill 3 Studies in 17th-Century Literature
Topic for Fall 2007: Feminine Eras in Fiction

HIS
History
HIS 300-F Global History
Topic for Fall 2007: Race, Gender, Rights in U.S. Legal System

HIS 330-J Topics in Middle Eastern History
Topic for Fall 2007: History and Culture of the Ancient Near East

HIS 340-J Topics in Asian History
Topic for Fall 2007: The World of the Indian Ocean

HIS 340-T Topics in Latin-American History
Topic for Fall 2007: Argentina, Brazil, and Chile

HIS 380-J Topics in Latin-American History
Topic for Fall 2007: Argentina, Brazil, and Chile

HIS 390-I Topics in Ancient and Medieval Europe
Section 01, Topic for Fall 2007: Ancient Greece
In many important ways, our culture traces its origins back to the people of ancient Greece: basic features of our way of life, including democracy, philosophy, theater, and more, began about the ancient Hellenes. Who were these people? What enabled them to achieve so much, and why has their influence lasted so long? This course will try to answer these questions. Course work will include two hour exams and a final.

Section 02, Topic for Fall 2007: The Ancient World
This course examines the various medieval conflicts known collectively (and according to at least one historian, inaccurately) as The Crusades. We will investigate specific episodes of writing in the time of both crusades, the conquests of Alexander the Great (ca. 3500-323BCE). Ancient Mesopotamia, in which Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians, Assyrians developed their distinctive cultural identities, but other Near Eastern peoples, such as the Hittites, Israelites, Egyptians, Phoenicians and Persians, will be covered as well. Special topics include the early history of cities, the first experiments with writing, the development and spread of writing, and the emergence of history itself. Archaeological evidence will be considered in conjunction with written documents. There are no pre-requisites. This is a lecture course, illustrated with powerpoints, but questions from the class will be welcomed and discussion encouraged. Grading will be on the basis of two half-hour midterm exams (20% each), a term paper of 8-9 pages (20%) and a final exam (40%).

Section 03, Topic for Fall 2007: The Early Civilizations
An exploration of the history of writing and its role in early civilizations. The course introduces the ancient literate societies the Near Eastern, the Indus Valley, China, and Mesoamerica. The problem of deciphering texts in which the languages or scripts were initially unknown to modern scholars will be highlighted. The lectures will also explore related questions, including the relationship between language and writing; the characteristics of some of the world’s major language families; the early history of the alphabet; and the techniques of military cryptanalysis to the study of ancient texts. Despite the arcane nature of some of the material covered, the objective of the course is to investigate the rather broad humanistic question of the importance of literacy in ancient societies, as well as to summarize some of the information actually transmitted to us by that literacy. There are no prerequisites for this course and no prior knowledge of linguistics, ancient

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SUPPLEMENT: SPECIAL TOPICS

History, archaeology is assumed. This is essentially a lecture course, although students are encouraged to pose questions to the professor during discussion. Grading will be based on two examinations (midterm 25%, final 50%), and five problem sets (5% each).

HIS 391-I Topics in Early Modern Europe
Topic for Fall 2007: Politics, Culture, and Authority in Early Modern Europe

This upper-division History course, intended for History majors, examines the social, intellectual, cultural and political life of Britain, France and their overseas colonies from the death of the Sun King to the Battle of Waterloo. Topics to be covered include: the structure of the ancien regime states; the impact of war and colonial acquisition; The Enlightenment, women and gender, exoticism and globalization; discovery, the emergence of popular radicalisms, and the circuits of transatlantic Revolution. Readings will include literary and historical sources of the period, which are explored in greater detail. Additional course requirements include class attendance, group discussion, two exams, and two essays.

HIS 394-H Topics in History of Medicine and Reproduction
Section 00, Topic for Fall 2007: Aids and the Social History of Medicine

This course will focus on AIDS and its relation to the social history of medicine. We will examine historiographically topics such as: What is a disease and how does a society’s concept of disease reflect its ideology and prejudices?; “The mystique of blood and semen — connection, discourse, power, identity;” “Medical Politics — the professionalization of medicine and the organization of health care in the USA;” and "Sexuality — promiscuity and sexually-transmitted disease in history;” we will also examine the use of the past in understanding the present.

The teaching method will be a combination of lecture and “process education” — students work actively in class in groups with specific learning goals and regular assessment of their progress. Class work will make up a significant portion of the course grade. In addition, there will be ten pages of formal writing, so that students will complete the Upper-Division Writing Requirement in History in some other majors. There will be one essay examination partway through the semester.

A special feature of this course is that students will work during class time in groups with New York City high school students and counselors from the AIDS Service Center of NYC (ASC) who will attend the class regularly throughout the term. Both HIS 394 undergraduates and other class members will participate in a conference to be held near the end of the semester, which will showcase their work and initiate dialogue with ASC members and other New York City residents. The conference will be held during class time at the ASC site on 11th Street. Class participants will have their names and essays "published" in the conference booklet. The course meetings will be held at the Stony Brook site at 401 Park Avenue.

HIS 396-K Topics in U.S. History
Section 01, Topic for Fall 2007: Wealth and Inequality in Modern Corporate Age

This course surveys how modern Americans have grappled with differences among themselves between the affluent and those with less money. Focus will fall on those who have created big business to dominate the economy, from the mid-nineteenth century onward. The course will explore the rise of corporations and their later transformations, from the robber barons to the trustbusters, as well as the rise of mass consumption. We will look both at the workplace and in other important realms where wealth, or its absence, has had an impact in shaping peoples’ notions about the classes to which they belong: in homes, the marketplace and in mass culture. Requirements include a final paper and two papers.

Section 02, Topic for Fall 2007: Music and Society

This course will examine the relationship between popular music and its social context by concentrating on six music forms: blues, soul, hip hop, dancehall, Afrobeat, and Afrofunk. Readings will focus on (1) concepts such as audiences, the music industry, cultural infrastructure, youth culture, and race; (2) processes such as urbanization, demographic change, globalization, and politicization of popular music. Course requirements: regular attendance, participation, three exams, and a short paper.

Section 03, Topic for Fall 2007: To be announced

Section 05, Topic for Fall 2007: Consumer Movements in American History

This course looks at the role of consumer movements in American history. It explores the many ways that ordinary Americans have deliberately tried to use their collective purchasing power to direct political and social change. We will trace the concept of “consumer empowerment” over two hundred years of American history. We will examine when, how, and in what context different types of consumer movements were able to express opposition to British trade policies (most famously in the Boston Tea party.) Other topics to be discussed include: the birth of the organized consumer movement in the Progressive era, the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act (1906), the use of consumer boycotts by labor unions and civil rights groups; consumer politics during the New Deal; and the place of consumption in post-1960s social movements, including second wave feminism and the environmental movement. We will look at class, gender, and ethnic/racial differences in the conception of “consumer power,” and explore its weaknesses as well as its strengths. Readings will include Lizabeth Cohen, A Consumers’ Republic and Lawrence Gleckman, Commerce in a Commercial History: A Reader. Written work will include one 5-7 page paper, one 7-10 page paper, and a final exam.

HIS 397-K Topics in History of U.S. Immigration and Ethnicity
Topic for Fall 2007: Asian American History

Asian American History is an introduction to the historical and contemporary factors that have molded Asian American life in the United States of America. Strongly emphasized themes are race-labor hierarchy, gender, immigration, second generation, and images/mass media. This course requires extensive speaking participation, group presentations, mandatory attendance. It consists of two lectures and one discussion section; participation in the section is essential. Prerequisite: two classes in Asian American History, or permission of instructor.

HIS 398-H Topics in History of Science and Technology
Topic for Fall 2007: Environment in World History

This course will investigate some of the crucial ways in which environmental factors have affected human history over time, and the resulting ways in which different cultures and societies have come to imagine nature and the environment. Drawing on a series of case studies ranging from the ancient Mediterranean to the era of Columbus, from problems of environmental management in imperial India to the emergence of environmentalism as a global movement today, the course will use these comparative perspectives to explore the changing relationships between people and the natural world. Course requirements include class participation, writing assignments totaling approximately 10 pages, and midterm and final exams.

HIS 399-K Topics in U.S. History
Topic for Fall 2007: Crime and Police

The development of police, courts, prisons, criminal law and crime from the 17th century to the present is the focus of this course. The course covers the changing nature of crime and criminals, creation and change in the institutions of criminal justice, and how people have perceived and responded to crime over time. Readings: four or five books and a course pack include general histories, literature, and newspaper items. Written work consists of several one-page reading-reaction papers, two take-home essay exams and a ten-page paper. The paper will satisfy the department’s upper division writing requirement. The class consists of two lectures and one discussion section; participation in the section is essential. Prerequisite: History 103 or History 104 or Equivalent.

HIS 401 Colloquia in European History
Topic for Fall 2007: Jewish, Christians, and Muslims Relations in the Middle Ages

In this course we will examine select aspects of social, intellectual, legal, and cultural relations among Jews, Christians, and Muslims in both western Christendom and Islamic lands from ca. 600-1500. Possible topics include Jewish-Christian-Muslim philosophical exchange, biblical interpretation, religious polemic, and/or literary borrowing; the legal status of Jews in Christian and Islamic societies; and representations of persons of different religions; the representations of other religions in literature and art; and interreligious violence. We will read both primary sources and important recent work in the field. Requirements include regular attendance, readings of about 50-75 pages per week, and a 20-page research paper, with outlines, drafts, and bibliography due along the way.

HIS 411, 412, 413, 414 Colloquia in Global History

Section 01, Topic for Fall 2007: Damned and Beautiful: American Youth Culture

This course is a serious scholarly examination of the production of youth culture in twentieth century America. Youth has been a socially constructed formation marked by complex processes of continuity, rupture, and transformation. Using insights from the Birmingham School of Cultural Studies on youth subcultures and those from cultural studies of race and gender, we will examine particular sites of contested cultures, including taxi dance halls, skateboarding, hip hop, dating, and amusement parks. Students will be expected to attend every class session, to read 200 pages or more a week, and to produce a ten-page polished research essay.

Section 01, Topic for Fall 2007: World Cities in the 20th Century

This course examines the history of a number of world cities in the Americas, Africa, and Europe with an emphasis on the challenges that their populations have been facing since 1945. Topics examined include inequality, race and ethnicity, migration, informal and formal entrepreneurship, industrialization and deindustrialization, urban culture, gentrification, crime, globalization, and historic preservation. Students are expected to complete the reading and to participate every week. For their final project, students will have to select a world city of their choice, read widely about its history and culture, and write a 15-20 page research paper. Portions of the course will be devoted to the discussion of these projects and to approaches on how to conduct historical research and write as successful research papers.

Section 01, Topic for Fall 2007: Sex and Death in American Murders

Americans have always been fascinated by murder. HIS 412 will look at celebrated murder cases from colonial times through O.J. Simpson. We are interested in what the murders meant to people at the time, and how historians have viewed them. Along the way we will learn about the history of the media, the criminal justice system, and a changing society. Seminar class with participation in discussions expected. Two short papers and a 10pp. term paper. Readings will be lengthy.
HIS 441 Colloquium in Global History

Topic for Fall 2007: World War II Simulation

The World War II simulation is a simulation of great power and ideological conflict in the world from 1936-1945. Students will be organized in national teams (Germany, Italy, Japan, the Soviet Union, China, Great Britain, France and the United States) and will attempt to maximize their national and ideological objectives within the framework of an instructor-operated simulation model. In addition, each student will attempt to forward their actor’s agenda within her or his national team. Wars may (or may not) occur during the course of the simulation. Prerequisite or co-requisite History 250 and Permission of the instructor.

HUE

European Literature and Culture Courses Taught in English

HUE 269-I Topics in Contemporary Slavic Culture

Topic for Fall 2007: Superheroes and Villains

HUI

Italian Literature and Culture Courses Taught in English

HUI 390-G Italian American Studies in the Humanities

Topic for Fall 2007: Italian American and African

ITL

Italian Language and Literature

ITL 431 Studies in 13th- and 14th-Century Literature

Topic for Fall 2007: Machiavelli Today

JPN

Japanese Language

JPN 332-G Humanities Topics in Japanese Studies

Topic for Fall 2007: Japanese Literature in Feminine Domain

JRN

Journalism

JRN 390 Special Topics: Issues in Contemporary Journalism

Topic for Fall 2007: The Press During Wartime

This course examines the role of the American press during wartime, with particular emphasis on coverage of World War II, Vietnam, the Gulf War and the War in Iraq. Students will explore government censorship and propaganda, questions of press responsibility, the tension between the Right to Know and National Security and the role of the press in shaping public opinion. Readings will include the work of Ernie Pyle, David Halberstam as well as reporters covering the War in Iraq. Broadcast elements will include WWII newscasts produced by the U.S. War Department, CBS’s Morley Safer reporting from a Vietnamese village set afire by US troops and NBC’s David Bloom traveling at high speed across the Iraqi desert, broadcasting live from his customized “Bloomobile.” Segments of the documentary “Fog of War” will also be shown and discussed. Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing.

LHD

Living Learning Center in Human Sexual and Gender Development

LHD 302 Colloquium in Human Sexual and Gender Development

Topic for Fall 2007: Pornography, Media, AIDS

LHD 401 Advanced Seminar in Human Sexual and Gender Development

Topic for Fall 2007: Straight/Queer: Selling Sex

PHI

Philosophy

PHI 400-G Individual Systems of the Great Philosophers (I)

Topic for Fall 2007: Edmund Husserl

PHI 402-G Analysis of Philosophic Texts (I)

Topic for Fall 2007: Love, Hate, Vulnerability

PHI 435 Senior Seminar

Topic for Fall 2007: Continental Philosophy Today

PSY

Psychology

PSY 339 Special Topics in Clinical Psychology

Topic for Fall 2007: Topics in Clinical and Health Psychology

PSY 358 Special Topics in Biopsychology

Section 01, Topic for Fall 2007: Neuropsychology

Section 02, Topic for Fall 2007: Topics in Clinical and Health Psychology

SOC

Sociology

SOC 390-F, 391-F Special Topics

Topic for Fall 2007: Sociology of Sport

Sport permeates all aspects of a global and contemporary society, including our economy, health status, educational situation, community setting, language, and cultural parameters such as ethnicity, race, class, status, and gender. This class will investigate how relevant sociological theories can be applied to aspects of the sport experience in an effort to understand the immense role that sport and physical activity plays in our daily lives.