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| **GLOBAL, CULTURAL, DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES COURSES**  **SCHOOL OF MUSIC 2023/24**  The Global/Cultural/Diverse Perspectives course requirement enables music students to understand the connection between their own lived experience and those of people throughout the world. It supports and shapes learning in arts, literature, economic, cultural, political and environmental influences which shape our lives. A GCD course includes content that relates to cultures, geographies, histories, and current issues of diversity, equity and inclusion. GCD courses may develop music students' skills to critically engage issues through understanding of social justice action that students can take as diverse citizens in a global community. | | | | | | | |
| **Semester**  **Last Offered** | **College/Dept** | **Course Number** | **Title** | **Units** | **Date/Time** | **Instructor** | **Full Course Description** |
| S22 | Drama | 54338 | Theatre of the Oppressed-An Introduction to Forum Theatre Performance | 6  mini | TR  12:45 - 2:45 | Mary  Parker | In what ways can theatre be used to solve social issues? This class will use theatrical storytelling to prototype solutions to unsolvable cultural problems. Using an applied theatre praxis, students will learn about the work of Augusto Boals Theatre of the Oppressed, specifically Forum Theater as one way to use performance to address a specific social issue decided on by the students. As part of the course students will devise a performance for a live audience to engage with at the end of the class. Leading up to the final performance, students will learn, analyze, deconstruct, and think critically about how theatre can be used as a technique to engage in creating revolutionary change. As part of the course students will foster their facilitation skills leading games and debriefs for their peers. During this course it is possible that topics that are brought up will be personal in nature and potentially triggering. As such, students will also learn strategies for how to address their triggers when they become present. Students taking this course do not have to be familiar with the work of Augusto Boal nor do they need to have any prior performance experience. Open to non-majors. |
| F23 | Business Admin | 70342 | Managing Across Cultures | 9 | A: MW  11:00-12:20  B: MW  3:30-4:50 | Marie Tomprou | This course is designed for students who expect to do business in other countries or work with people from other cultures. It provides an intellectual framework for understanding other cultures (and eventually one’s own), as well as detailed studies of particular countries. It discusses how culture defines organizations, contracts, personal relationships, attitudes toward authority, time and space, ethics, wealth, and subcultures, and how these affect business. Student teams study a culture of their choice and make presentations, based on interviews and literature research. |
| S24  F23 | English | 76207 | Special Topics in Literature & Culture | 9 | F23  A: MW  9:30-10:50  B: MWF  12:00-12:50  S24  A: MWF  12:00-12:50  B: TR  9:30-10:50C: TR 12:30-1:50 | F23  A: Atesede Makonnen  B: Benjamin Williams  S24  A: Eunji jo  B: Stephan Caspar, Candace Skibba  C: Tatyana Gershkovich | Topics very by semester. Spring 2022: Gender and Power in Popular Culture - From the soap operas of the 1980s and Madonna Ciccones Like a Virginto the current television series Pose and LilNasXs Montero, popular culture generates sex and gender norms, and reflects anxieties and controversies surrounding the ways we define and understand these norms. In this course, students will explore the role of popular culture in producing and maintaining our concepts of gender and sex. Using a media studies based approach, we will engage with a diverse archive that includes film, television, music videos and performances, social media discourses, and consumer-produced viral images and video. As we engage with these objects, we will learn and practice methods of intersectional feminist media analysis to interrogate the representation of gender and sexuality in these popular forms and work to become more critical spectators and consumers. In addition to small writing assignments throughout the course, each student will work to complete a final project analyzing a relevant media object of their choice. |
| S22 | English | 76217 | Literature and Culture of the 20th and 21st Century | 9 | TR 3:05-4:25 | Jeffrey Williams | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | Spring 2022: If you're in college now, you're probably a member of "Generation Z." There are a number of studies of Generation Z and its disposition, habits, and interests. While we are familiar with factors that make up our identities--nationality, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, income, and abledness--one's generation is probably just as influential, and according to some sociologists, more important than those other factors. In this class we will look at portraits of American generations in fiction, from the Baby Boomers and Generation X through Millennials and Generation Z. We will also look at some of the sociology and see how it bears on the fiction. In addition, we might look back at past generations, such as the generation that came of age after World War I, the Lost Generation, which inspired writers such as F. Scott Fitzgerald, and the Beat Generation, which inspired Jack Kerouac. In more recent fiction, we might read fiction such as Coupland's Generation X, Lauren Groff's portrait of the sixties generation in Arcadia, or Ling Ma's portrait of Millennials in Severance. We will also look at film along with novels, possibly including The Big Chill, Reality Bites, and other movies. | |
| S24  F23 | English | 76241 | Introduction to Gender Studies | 9 | F23:  TR 11:00-12:20  S24:  A: MW 9:30-10:50  B: MW 2:00-3:20 | F23:  Marian Aguiar  S24:  A: Atesede Makonnen  B: Robyn Rowley | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | Section A: This course offers an introduction to the study of gender, how we are gendered, and how systems of gendering form the architecture of the social world. With interdisciplinary readings both foundational and contemporary, the class will combine theory, literature, and film with legal texts, public policies, and media representations. We will take an intersectional approach, examining how gender converges with factors like race, class, sexual orientation, and disability to create distinct positions and multiple axes of oppression. Through reading, graded assignments, and class discussions, students will develop the ability to think critically about gender across disciplines and textual forms; to argue persuasively; and to express ideas clearly. | |
| S22 | English | 76244 | Immigrant Fictions | 9 | TR  12:30-1:50 | Marian Aguiar | Contemporary writers offer vibrant portrayals of questions around identity and belonging that accompany migration and immigration to the United States. Their works show how displaced people and their children reinvent themselves, even as they look back to other homelands. This contemporary literature course combines fiction, poetry, drama and scholarly non-fiction readings to examine the experiences of the transnational movement of people to the United States, including international students, refugees, and documented and undocumented migrants and their families. We will consider not only the experience of personal migration, but also the global social, economic and political processes that structure that movement. Possible fiction readings draws from Asian American studies, Latinx studies, and African American studies, and might include Jhumpa Lahiri, Valerie Luiselli, Chimamanda Adichie, Christina Garcia, Juno Daz, Lisa Ko, Cathy Park Hong, and Edwidge Danticat. |
| S24  F23 | English | 76278 | Japanese Film and Literature: The Art of Storytelling | 9 | S24  A: TR  11:00-12:20B: 2:00-3:20  F23  A: MW-11:00-12:20  B: MW 2:00-3:20 | S24:  A&B: Yasufumi Iwasaki  F23:  A: Yoshihiro Yasuhara  B: Yasufumi Iwasaki | This course explores how the art of storytelling is in tandem with the vicissitudes of the human condition as illustrated in Japans variety of fictions, non-fictions, and films in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Analyses of each storytelling not only reveal the cultural dynamics behind Japanese modernity, but also invite students to find new insights into Japanese culture and their ways of perceiving our globalized world. What kind of cultural exchanges took place between modern Japan and the West? How are Japans traditional values transformed in the face of modern technicalization and industrialization, compared to the modernization of other countries? And, in turn, what kind of impact has modern Japanese culture had on today’s world? Tackling these questions among others, the course also extends to such issues as the legacy of traditional Japanese culture, the modern Emperor system, World War II experiences, emerging voices of minorities, and popular culture (e.g., anime and subculture). |
| S24 | English | 76327 | Equity & Communication | 9 | MW  9:30-10:50 | Joanna Wolfe | Communication is always embedded in power relationships with unstated social rules that govern who is able to say what when. But communication also offers us a tool for rewriting oppressive social scripts. In this class, we will look both at inequities built into our communication and strategies for overturning these inequities. The focus will be on practical actions that you can take to improve your school, workplace, or extracurricular groups. Our readings will come from diverse sources and fields, including sociolinguistics, psychology, education, organizational communication, rhetoric, and writing studies. You will learn how to read research in these fields and will be encouraged to experiment with unfamiliar research methods yourself (in a safe, low-stress context) so that you become a more informed reader. While our readings might occasionally depress (or enrage) you, the overall focus of the course will be optimistic, challenging you to imagine solutions to the problems we discuss. |
| S23 | History | 79329 | LGBTQ+ History | 9 | MW  3:30 – 4:50 | Timothy Haggerty | This class introduces and discusses LGBTQ history over time, drawing cases and readings from a number of cultures and timeframes. It introduces students to the concept of sexuality as an area of historical inquiry as well as introducing students to the methods and the questions that have engaged historians in this area. |
| F23 | History | 79189 | History of Democracy: Thinking Beyond the Self | 9 | MW  12:00-12:50 | Ricky  Law | What is the best way to run a country? What is the worst? Democracy has been called both the best and worst form of government. Either way, as almost all countries in the world claim to be a democracy, chances are you come from one of them. What does it mean to live in a democracy? In essence, it means thinking beyond the self and from the perspectives of other people. It means looking for facts but being open to different interpretations. And it means taking responsibility to think critically and independently. These traits are also necessary for understanding history. This course will train you in the skillset and mindset of a historian so you can act democratically. You will learn to tell historical facts from opinions and to see from various angles. The course will also push you to think for yourself, and to argue persuasively for your own position. These skills of thinking historically are useful not just for school or work, but they are also indispensable to a democratic society. Democracy is chosen as the course theme because it is a feature that sets humans apart from other organisms. Knowing the history of democracy is thus knowing what it means to be human, which is the essence of the humanities. Our investigation will begin with ancient Rome and continue to revolutionary France, Weimar Germany, modern Japan, the Chinese nation, and the Iranian nation. At the end of our journey, you will have gained a basic appreciation of the philosophical appeal and practical challenges of democracy, so that you will be able to decide for yourself what role democracy should play in your life and vice versa. |
| F23 | History | 79415/82215 | Arab Culture Through Dialogues, Film, and Literature | 9 | MW  12:30-1:50 | Nevine Abraham | Minorities in the Middle East and North Africa In today’s society that explores Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), one ought to ponder if Arab societies have made progress to ensure DEI among minorities of other races, religions (Muslims, Christians, Jews), sects (Sunni and Shia), ethnicities (Copts, Nubians, Kurds), Palestinians, and LGBTQ groups. This course aims to enrich students understanding of the diversity of Arab countries and the historical changes that have shaped identities of these groups and explore the progress made in granting them more rights. Students will learn the impact of colonialism, Pan-Arabism, socio-economy, and cultural norms on minorities status through readings, films/documentaries, music, data collected via surveys and virtual sessions with students in Arab countries. |
| S23 | History | 79496 | Chinese Language and Culture Before the Republic | 9 | TR 11:00-12:20 | Tianxue  Yao | With China as a growing political and economic power, understanding the country through its history and culture becomes necessary for students as responsible citizens of the world. This course is designed to help students, previously unexposed to Chinese culture and civilization, better understand Chinas past. By learning about the history of the Middle Kingdom, students will be exposed to the deep and fascinating foundation of Chinese civilization. We will not cover thousands of years of history, but discuss a chronological timeline of dynasties for reference. Areas of focus include the general knowledge of geography, religion, art, ancient lifestyles, and values. This course is conducted in English with no requirement of prior knowledge of Chinese language. |
| S23 | History | 79497/82333 | Chinese Language and Culture in the 20th Century | 9 | MW  11:00-12:20 | Zhongxin  Sun | This course will introduce students to important developments in Chinas culture and language since the end of the nineteenth century focusing on the interactions between Chinese and Western cultural traditions and the historical, social, and political contexts in which these interactions evolved. The following questions will motivate discussion: What is Chinese culture in the modern world? What is modern and what traditional Chinese culture? How does high culture interact with folk culture and popular culture? How have education and language policies shaped Chinese cultural identities over the last century? What does it mean to be Chinese in a diaspora context? This course is conducted in English with no requirement of prior knowledge of Chinese language. |
| S24  F23 | Modern Languages | **82283** | Language Diversity & Cultural Identity | 9 | S24:  TR 12:30-1:50  F23:  MW 11:00-12:20 | S24: Khaled Al Masaeed  F23: Khaled Al Masaeed | Culture, language, and identity are intimately tied together. Individuals, families, communities, and nations identify themselves in relation to the language or languages they speak. Local, national, and international governmental organizations make choices about the language or languages they recognize and use for political and economic affairs. The United Nations even recognizes language as integral to maintaining the cultural heritage of communities and peoples around the world, and the freedom to choose ones language of expression as a universal human right. In this course, we will explore a variety of questions, advantages, and challenges related to language diversity and cultural identity across the globe. Our main focus will be on contexts of multilingualism that is, contexts in which two or more languages may be used. Adopting a comparative case study approach, we will explore the following themes: (i) The historical underpinnings of language diversity and its consequences for cultural identity today (e.g., migration, colonization, conquest); (ii) How language diversity and cultural identity shapes, and is shaped by, local, regional, national, and international politics; (iii) The relationship between language diversity and language use and visibility in public spaces (i.e., the linguistic landscape); (iv) Relations between linguistic communities (e.g., majority and minority language users) and the sense of belonging to a culture. The course is taught in English. Students who wish to take the course as a Modern Languages major or minor elective will need to complete their final project on a topic relevant to the language they study. |
| S23 | Modern Languages | 82286/79458 | Of Minorities and Migrants: Exploring Germany from the Margins Germany today | 9 | TR  3:30-4:50 | Martina Wells | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | Of Minorities and Migrants: Exploring Germany from the Margins Germany today is home to a multi-cultural and ethnically diverse population, largely the result of accelerated migratory flows in the wake of the country's postwar era. In this course, we will explore the impact and cultural dimensions of migrations through the lens of Germany's minorities. By mapping the course of German post-war history, immigration and migration, we will establish the context for our probe into the lived experience of Germany's Turkish, Jewish, Black, East German, and refugee minorities. Examining, comparing, and historically situating these experiences and surrounding debates will allow us to address topical issues related to diversity, multiculturalism, racism, and citizenship that shape contemporary Germany. Appreciating the diversity of minority experiences will help students think more critically about the constructedness of identities. This discussion-based course is taught in English and open to all students. | |
| F23 | History | 82267 | Beyond the Mafia and Michelangelo | 9 | MW  9:30- 10:50 | Janice  Vairo | Beyond the Mafia and Michelangelo: Italy Unmasked Eclipsed by the consumer obsessions of tourists and the most well-known figures of Italian history, the uniqueness of Italy, offering distinct cultures in the north, central, and south, is rarely understood by outsiders. In this course, students will discover an Italy rich with cultural variants, radically diverse histories, customs, cults, and superstitions, in addition to physical expressions of culture in cooking and clothing, art and architecture. Students will identify and critically analyze diversity within the peninsula and its islands, and expand their awareness and understanding of the role of culture in behavior. Film, documentaries, and readings from epistolary and literary sources will help reveal a more profound Italy, for example, the science of Dulbecco (the Human Genome), the architecture of Trulli conical houses, the religious importance of Pitigliano ('Little Jerusalem'), and the immigration problems of San Marino. Coursework will include class participation, readings, film viewings, and writing. Final projects will be based on interviews and oral histories with the Italo-American community in Bloomfield (Pittsburgh), leading to critical comparisons of that population with Italians in Italy. This course is offered in English. |
| F23 | History | 82320 | Contemporary Society in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland | 9 | TR  12:30- 1:50 | Martina Wells | This course offers an introduction to contemporary German culture since 1989. Switzerland and Austria will be frequently included in class discussions but the main focus will be on Germany. In the wake of reunification, constructions of German cultural identity have undergone radical changes. Through encounters with articles, literary texts, popular music, and film students will explore these transformations and examine German culture and (both individual and collective) "identities" after reunification. The class sessions will be organized around several thematic segments, including East/West relations during and after reunification, German media, multiculturalism and minorities, and, finally, a segment on how to navigate the business world in German-speaking countries. The course will be conducted entirely in German and is designed to deepen students' understanding and awareness of issues in contemporary German culture. |
| F23 | History | 79120 | Introduction to African American History: Black Americans and the World | 9 | TR  12:30- 1:50 | Ezelle Sanford | Exploring the history of Black Americans requires a global perspective. Beginning with early modern African civilizations, the transatlantic slave trade, the global age of revolutions, the implementation of transnational regimes of racial segregation, to the growth of transnational movements for civil and human rights, this course surveys the history of Black Americans from a global perspective. It analyzes how Black Americans conceived of their social position in relation to others in the world. It also explores how perspectives from across the world made sense of Black Americans. This course will follow African-descended people as they theorized, moved, migrated, and traveled throughout the world. From this perspective, students will learn about the diasporic dimensions of Black American identity. Students will also trace the historical circulation of African-descended people, knowledge, culture, and technologies. Students will analyze the important themes of freedom, movement, and migration from a global perspective. Through this course, students will learn that Black American historical actors have and continue to understand their position not only within the domestic social and political spheres of the United States but also in the global order of states and societies. From their marginalized social position, Black Americans, therefore, have articulated alternative frameworks for understanding the United States, the West, and the world. This is an introductory survey course. |