

2018-2019 Inquiry Seminars and Practicums in Humanities and Arts

(Days and times of courses will be available on the Registrar's website.)

July 31, 2018 (subject to revision)

Fillable form:

<https://www.wpi.edu/sites/default/files/inline-image/NEW%20HUA%20req%20FILLABLE%20registration%20form%204-2017%20revised.pdf>

E 2018 Art/Art History/Architecture

HU 3910-E103 PRACTICUM: NATURE, DESIGN, and ART

Keller, Marie T. (contact info: mkeller@wpi.edu SL 031)

CRN: 31409

Nature has been a source of inspiration for artists throughout history. In this practicum, students will study forms and patterns found in nature and use their observations to solve design problems and create artwork. Related art and architecture will be reviewed for additional inspiration. The goal for each student is to develop a body of work suitable for professional presentation. Prospective students with traditional skills are encouraged to apply, as are students with non-traditional skills.

HU 3910-E105 PRACTICUM: PUPPETRY

Keller, Marie T. (contact info: mkeller@wpi.edu SL 031)

CRN: 31410

E 2018 English (see also Writing)

HU 3900-E103 INQUIRY SEMINAR: LORD RINGS: TOLKIEN

deWinter, Jennifer (contact info: jdewinter@wpi.edu, office FL B25a)

CRN: 31407

The Lord of the Rings: A Cultural Studies Approach to Tolkien

J. R. R. Tolkien's Middle Earth was the culmination of his love of Saxon and Nordic sagas, his ambivalence concerning industrialization, his fear of the great wars, and his joy in storytelling. Scholars have attended to his mythopoetic forms, his religious and philosophical explorations, his engagement with a particular historical moment, his linguistic inventions (Tolkien was a philologist and studied language in historical sources), and much more. Further, Tolkien has seen a resurgence in contemporary culture with the movie and game adaptations of his material. This inquiry seminar takes a cultural studies approach to the Lord of the Rings trilogy, building from student back grounds in HUA disciplines, to analyze the original trilogy. Combining close reading of the books with external research to answer humanities-based questions, students will complete a seminar project that explores different aspects of The Lord of the Rings in cultural contexts. Cultural studies are often grounded in history, literature, rhetoric, and philosophy, so students with depth in these areas will be better prepared to succeed.

HU 3900-E102 INQUIRY SEMINAR: AM FICTION & PULITZER

Ljungquist, Kent (contact info: kpl@wpi.edu, office SL 223D)

CRN: 30543

For just over 100 years, the Pulitzer Prize has been awarded annually for excellence in fiction, poetry, drama, history, and journalism. After an opening discussion of the purpose and history of the award, named for the editor Joseph Pulitzer, students will read Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence* (1920), the first prize winner for a work of fiction by a woman writer. Students will then have the option of reading Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men* (1946) or Wallace Stegner's *Angle of Repose* (1970), novels that stirred controversy and debate upon publication and in the years after their initial appearance. Reading, discussion, short reports, and written analysis will address and evaluate the appeal of these novels to readers of their time and their enduring value as notable works of fiction. Each student will develop a portfolio of two medium length essays that deal with the novels under discussion.

E 2018 History

HU 3900-E104 INQUIRY SEMINAR: EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY

Bullock, Steven C. (contact info: sbullock@wpi.edu, office SL 235)

CRN: 30557

This Inquiry Seminar in History and American Studies examines Mason Locke Weems's Life of George Washington, the most popular early biography of America's first president--and the first to tell the (perhaps made-up) story of

Washington chopping down the cherry tree. Students will write papers on the book itself and on its connections to Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary America. They will also consider more broadly how to think and write about the past.

HU 3900-E107 INQUIRY SEMINAR: LONDON PROJECT CENTER (Off Campus)

Spanagel, David (contact info: spanagel@wpi.edu, office SL 239)

Boucher, Esther (contact info: efboucher@wpi.edu, office SL 109)

CRN: 31086

E 2018 Music

HU 3900-E101 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MUSIC & SOCIETY

Shim, Eunmi (contact info: eshim@wpi.edu, office AH 211)

CRN: 30005

This seminar will examine the intersection of music, culture, and society, focusing on the issues of race, gender, and sexuality, by exploring the interconnected nature between these socio-political issues and music from historical, social, and cross-cultural perspectives. Students will choose a topic for an individual paper from various styles of music, including Western classical music, popular music, and non-Western music, and conduct independent research.

HU 3900-E106 INQUIRY SEMINAR: LONDON PROJECT CENTER (Off Campus)

Manzo, V.J. (contact info: vjmanzo@wpi.edu, office AH 209)

CRN: 30955

HU 3910-E102 PRACTICUM IN HUA: MULTIMEDIA/GAMES

Manzo, V.J. (contact info: vjmanzo@wpi.edu, office AH 209)

CRN: 31408

This practicum focuses on interactive music environments in multimedia installations and gaming engines. Existing projects will be examined and students will work in teams in a variety of ways on a music oriented gaming project including programming and designing music gaming environments in Unity 3D, creating text and video narrative for these environments, graphic and 3D modeling for game levels and other elements, developing virtual instruments within the gaming world and more.

HU 3910-E101 PRACTICUM IN HUA: MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Weeks, Douglas (contact info: dweeks@wpi.edu, office AH 212)

CRN: 30545

HU 3910-E104 PRACTICUM IN HUA: ARRANGING

Weeks, Douglas (contact info: dweeks@wpi.edu, office AH 212)

CRN: 31411

HU 3910-E201 PRACTICUM IN HUA: MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Weeks, Douglas (contact info: dweeks@wpi.edu, office AH 212)

CRN: 30717

HU 3910-E202 PRACTICUM IN HUA: MULTIMEDIA/GAMES

Manzo, V.J. (contact info: vjmanzo@wpi.edu, office AH 209)

CRN 30725

This practicum focuses on interactive music environments in multimedia installations and gaming engines. Existing projects will be examined and students will work in teams in a variety of ways on a music oriented gaming project including programming and designing music gaming environments in Unity 3D, creating text and video narrative for these environments, graphic and 3D modeling for game levels and other elements, developing virtual instruments within the gaming world and more.

A 2018 Art/Art History/Architecture

HU3910-A04 PRACTICUM: LIGHT ART

Rosenstock, Joshua (contact info: jrosen@wpi.edu, office SL 208)

CRN: 11217

This studio art practicum will introduce students to techniques and practices in the creation of works of light art. Students will explore the application of creative lighting technology to objects, spaces, and fashion, culminating in the creation of an original work of electronic light art. Topics may include light painting, working with LEDs and electroluminescent wire, 3d printing, programming for art with Arduino and Processing, and basic electronics skills.

A 2018 English (see also Writing)

HU 3900-A06 INQUIRY SEMINAR: PLAYWRIGHTS' WORKSHOP

Ciaraldi, Michael (contact info: ciaraldi@wpi.edu)

CRN: 12330

Students will learn about the essential building blocks of play structure: plot, story (not the same thing!) character, action, motivation. We'll study some examples from the masters and then plunge in, writing our own 10 minute (or longer) plays. Goal is writing next year's New Voices pick!

HU 3900-A05 INQUIRY SEMINAR: ANIMAL STUDIES

Cocola, James (contact info: jcocola@wpi.edu, office SL 26)

CRN: 11865

How have humans expressed themselves in relation to the animal kingdom? In this seminar we will explore works of literary and visual culture from across place and time in order to gain a better understanding of the distinctions and relations between humans and animals such as goats, monkeys, pigs, and wolves. Whether in bestiaries or fairy tales, cave paintings or photographs, plays or films, novels or poems, we will inflect our understanding of these materials through the emerging critical framework and multidisciplinary field of animal studies. Project options will include analytical essays, creative writing portfolios, and digital humanities projects.

HU 3900-A01 INQUIRY SEMINAR: CREATIVE WRITING: SCI-FI, HORROR, AND FANTASY

Ephraim, Michelle K. (contact info: ephraim@wpi.edu, office SL 237)

CRN: 11174

In this inquiry seminar we will study three genres of fiction writing: sci-fi, horror, and fantasy. In addition to reading examples of these genres and analyzing their use of literary conventions, students will write their own 20-30 page creative project. This seminar is for students who have taken previous courses at WPI in both literature and writing. During the draft writing process, students will read each other's work and provide verbal feedback in a "writing workshop" format.

A 2018 History

HU 3900-A02 INQUIRY SEMINAR: EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY

Bullock, Steven C. (contact info: sbullock@wpi.edu, office SL 235)

CRN: 10599

This Inquiry Seminar in History and American Studies examines Mason Locke Weems's Life of George Washington, the most popular early biography of America's first president--and the first to tell the (perhaps made-up) story of Washington chopping down the cherry tree. Students will write papers on the book itself and on its connections to Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary America. They will also consider more broadly how to think and write about the past.

HU 3900-A04 INQUIRY SEMINAR: AMERICAN HISTORY THROUGH FILM - FILLED

Hanlan, James P. (contact info: jphanlan@wpi.edu, office SL 028)

CRN: 10601

This Inquiry Seminar is intended as the culminating experience in Humanities and Arts for students who have completed five courses in Humanities and Arts, including at least two courses in American History (one at the 2000-level or higher). It is also suitable for students with interests in American Studies. The class will focus on a particular theme in the American experience to be chosen by the instructor, and students will write individual papers broadly centered on that theme. Students will develop the ability to think, discuss, and write about American history and American Studies.

A 2018 Music

HU 3900-A03 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MUSICAL ROBOTICS

Barton, Scott (contact info: sdbarton@wpi.edu, AH 208)

CRN: 11813

In this course, we will design, build and compose for musical robots. In the design component of the project, we will research acoustic and mechanical principles of traditional instruments as well as of the technologies used in more current systems. We will consider the strengths of these designs, how they can be improved and how they can be modified to explore new musical territory. We will imagine musical gestures that we want our instrument(s) to be able to perform, paying particular attention to those gestures that are idiomatic and unique to machines. In the building component of the project, we will fabricate parts, design circuits and program the code necessary to realize our instruments. Each student will then compose a piece for the robotic / mechatronic instrument(s) that illuminates its expressive capabilities. Students should have experience in both music and at least one of the core robotics disciplines (electrical and computer engineering, computer science, mechanical engineering).

HU 3910-A02 PRACTICUM IN HUA: MUSIC IN MULTIMEDIA AND GAMING ENVIRONMENTS - FILLED

Manzo, V.J. (contact info: vjmanzo@wpi.edu, office AH 209)

CRN: 10865

This practicum focuses on interactive music environments in multimedia installations and gaming engines. Existing projects will be examined and students will work in teams in a variety of ways on a music oriented gaming project including programming and designing music gaming environments in Unity 3D, creating text and video narrative for these environments, graphic and 3D modeling for game levels and other elements, developing virtual instruments within the gaming world and more.

A 2018 Philosophy/Religion

HU 3900-A03 INQUIRY SEMINAR: PHILOSOPHY AND THE CITY: URBAN HUMANITIES

Eddy, Bethel L. (contact info: bleddy@wpi.edu, office SL 223E)

CRN: 10600

How do we shape out cities and how do they shape us in turn? An urban environment presents unique challenges and opportunities—and the world is becoming increasingly urban. How did cities come into being and how have they changed over time and why? What's distinct about urban cultures for better or worse? How can we make them move livable places? Urban planning and theory, urban public health, urban environmental concerns: these and many other aspects of human city life are on the table for examination in a seminar-style class. We will use *The City Reader* to give us a common point of reflection, but from there, students will pick a topic of individual interest and develop a researched and persuasive paper to share with our seminar group. This seminar should be of interest to students looking to follow-up on a Livable Cities GPS class, looking at visiting an urban global IQP site, or seeking to pursue a concentration in urban studies.

A 2018 Writing (see also English)

B 2018 Art/Art History/Architecture

B 2018 English (see also Writing)

HU 3900-B09 INQUIRY SEMINAR: A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Brattin, Joel J. (contact info: jjb@wpi.edu, office SL 024)

CRN: 11168

Charles Dickens's first, best, and most popular Christmas book, *A Christmas Carol* (1843), had a profound effect on the culture of Victorian England, and continues to exert a strong influence on our own. Participants in this Inquiry Seminar in British Literature will study the book itself, and also its context, examining Dickens's manuscript for the book, and his adaption of the book for the Victorian stage. Students will explore the rich collection of materials in WPI's Robert D. Fellman Dickens collection, and will conduct and present original research on topics related to *A Christmas Carol*.

HU 3910-B01 PRACTICUM IN HUA: THEATRE TECH & MANGT - FILLED

Eddy, James (contact info: jseddy@wpi.edu, office SL 018)

CRN: 11178

This Practicum in Theatre Technology will involve participants in the rehearsal and staging of the annual Humanities and Arts, Drama/Theatre, and Masque collaborative production. This practicum is part of the academic theatre program. The Drama/Theatre professors work together every year to stage a play chosen for its high regard from world dramatic literature. The production opens in the fourth week of the term, with the following three weeks devoted to assembling a project portfolio which documents the results of the study. Students may enroll in this practicum for design, technology, stage management, management, or other production areas with the approval of the instructor.

HU 3900-B06 INQUIRY SEMINAR: THE POETICS OF WALKING

Harmon, Joshua (contact info: jharmon@wpi.edu, office SL 022)

CRN: 10806

Walking as a form of writing practice has a long tradition: "Poets," A.R. Ammons once noted, "not only do a lot of walking but talk about it in their poems." This seminar will consider various examples from this tradition—possibly including writers such as Basho, Hazlitt, Thoreau, Baudelaire, Woolf, Kafka, Jacobs, O'Hara, Mayer, Solnit, and various other contemporary poets and essayists. We will investigate the links between walking, thinking, and writing; between pedestrian trespass and literary trespass; and between walking and writing as forms of resistance to the culture of productivity. Students will write poems and/or essays inspired by their own walks during the term. Note that this seminar will require students to take walks both on- and especially off-campus, both during and outside of seminar time.

HU 3910-B03 PRACTICUM IN HUA: ACTING, DIRECTING, DRAMATURGY FOR MAJOR PRODUCTION IN THE LITTLE THEATRE (6)

Giapoudzi, Desponia (contact the HUA office SL 125)

CRN: 10664

In this practicum qualified undergraduates have the opportunity to act, direct, work in dramaturgy, or otherwise artistically participate in the annual major B term production performed in the Little Theatre. For more information, please contact the professor.

B 2018 History**HU 3900-B02 INQUIRY SEMINAR: GLOBAL ISSUES**

Addison, W.A. Bland (contact info: addison@wpi.edu, office SL 238)

CRN: 11175

This Inquiry Seminar in History will focus upon the historical roots of contemporary conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa. The conflicts arise from ethno-cultural hostilities, from decades of oppressive governments, and the many failures of Western governments to promote democratic stability in the region. Students will prepare an analytical research paper on an appropriate topic.

HU 3900-B07 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MEDIA REVOLUTIONS IN HISTORY - FILLED

Clark, Constance (contact info: cclark@wpi.edu, office SL 408D)

CRN: 11176

The notion that we are currently immersed in a "digital revolution" has stimulated a lot of discussion lately. Many commentators write as if this were the first media revolution in human history. It is not. This inquiry seminar in the History of Science and Technology will explore the history of a series of media revolutions—alphabets, moveable type, books, photography, the telegraph, the graphic revolution in newspapers and magazines, radio, movies, sound recording, and television, in order to gain a historical perspective on our own contemporary digital revolution, and try to come to a better understanding of its implications and ramifications. The course will culminate in a more historically informed contemplation of our own contemporary media revolution. Students will individually examine focused aspects of that history for individual research projects. We will draw on primary source materials, informed by study of the methods of analysis historians have devoted to such material. This will be a writing-intensive course, including a "workshop" setting in which students will help each other improve their writing and revising skills.

HU 3900-B05 INQUIRY SEMINAR: IMMIGRATION AND IMMIGRANT LIVES - FILLED

Galante, John (contact info: jsgalante@wpi.edu, office SL 234)

CRN: 11273

This Inquiry Seminar will examine migration and immigrant experiences around the world and across periods of time. Students will select a historical or present-day case study for analytical examination through the placement of migration in social, political, economic and/or cultural contexts. Among the topics addressed will be: factors that drive migratory flows; characteristics of settlement, assimilation and discrimination; and relationships between immigrant communities and their homeland.

HU-3900-B12 INQUIRY SEMINAR: HISTORY

Davis, Lindsay (contact info: HUA office SL125)

CRN: 12459

B 2018 Music**HU 3900-B10 INQUIRY SEMINAR: JAZZ HISTORY DATABASE - FILLED**

Falco, Richard G. (contact info: rfalco@wpi.edu, office AH 210)

CRN: 11868

This Inquiry Seminar in Jazz Music History will assemble a team of students to conduct field research by visiting the homes of New England based jazz artists and their families. Data collected in the field will include oral history interviews, old photographs, recordings, print media, and radio and television shows. Materials will be processed according to specific guidelines and added to an online permanent collection at jazzhistorydatabase.com.

B 2018 Philosophy/Religion**HU 3900-B08 INQUIRY SEMINAR: BIOETHICS AND MEDICAL HUMANITIES**

Eddy, Bethel L. (contact info: bleddy@wpi.edu, office SL 223E)

CRN: 11838

This seminar will allow students to pursue an independent research project in humanistic aspects of the life sciences and/or medicine. The seminar group will provide feedback and help to each seminar participant along the way. Projects may take a literary, film-based, ethical, philosophical, historical, anthropological or religious studies approach, though they are not limited by this list of possibilities. Projects may also draw from the perspective of practitioners (such as researchers, doctors, nurses, therapists, etc.) or from the perspective of the ill patient or loved ones of the sufferer.

HU 3900-B01 INQUIRY SEMINAR: ANIMAL ETHICS

Sanbonmatsu, John (contact info: js@wpi.edu, office SL 023)

CRN: 11177

We are living through the greatest mass species extinction event in over 60 million years; meanwhile, humans annually kill over 50 billion animals for food and profit. Why? And what are the moral, political, and existential implications of speciesism, or human domination, as a system as a mode of producing human life? Students will get to devise a research project of their own choosing, based on one of the following areas of inquiry: cognitive ethology, or the scientific study of animal minds; the phenomenology of nonhuman being; moral philosophy (animal ethics), including the ethics of conducting animal research; Marxist critique of speciesism as a mode of political economy; and political theories of power and citizenship.

B 2018 Writing (see also English)**HU 3900-B11 INQUIRY SEMINAR: SHELLS, WIRE, TWINE: INNOVATIVE NARRATIVE TECHNIQUE**

McIntyre, Katharine (contact info: HUA office SL 125)

CRN: 12445

This course invites students to explore new writing technologies, both analog and digital, through an intensive consideration of how form guides content and content dictates form. Using a scaffolding of narrative theory and exemplary models across print, audio, and digital media, students will create their own stories in three exciting developing genres. First, we will study the "hermit crab essay," a new form of creative nonfiction in which the narrative squeezes into the shape of something else: a recipe, a horoscope, a crossword puzzle. Next, we will examine the possibilities of audio storytelling, considering the human voice as a supple and agile instrument. Finally, we will use the interactive tool Twine to create nonlinear digital narratives that invite readers to make choices to

navigate a story. While students need no formal creative writing background, they should be ready for play, strangeness, and discovery.

C 2019 Art/Art History/Architecture

HU 3910-C02 PRACTICUM IN HUA: DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM PRODUCTION - FILLED

Bigonah, Roshanak (contact info: rbigonah@wpi.edu, office SL 031)

CRN: 20577

This practicum focuses on the process of producing a short documentary video. The genres of short film, documentary, and promotional video will be discussed. The students will develop their own proposal, scripts, and storyboards and produce their own documentary videos. Topics such as visual communication, storytelling, and effective audio and non-linear video editing techniques will be explored. This course is appropriate for students with 'depth' in film-related coursework or art.

HU 3900-C02 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MCKIM, MEAD & WHITE

Samson, David, M. (contact info: samson@wpi.edu, office SL 14)

CRN: 20306

This Inquiry Seminar is structured around the work and times of Charles McKim, William Mead and Stanford White, partners in one of the most accomplished and important firms in the history of American architecture. The firm was founded in 1879, created daringly innovative buildings throughout the 1880s (the "Shingle Style" era), and became a highly influential force for Classical Revival architecture, which it upheld into the 1920s. The firm influenced many American and Worcester architects, including Stephen Earle, architect of much of WPI.

C 2019 English (see also Writing)

HU 3900-C INQUIRY SEMINAR: INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

Boucher, Esther (contact info: efboucher@wpi.edu office SL 109)

CRN:

In a globalized and multilingual world which faces unprecedented challenges regarding social cohesion in a range of communities and the workforce, the need for intercultural dialogue, communication and competence is ever more apparent. In this inquiry seminar, we will examine how people from different cultural backgrounds communicate, in similar and different ways among themselves, and how they endeavor to communicate cross/inter-culturally. This seminar is appropriate for bi/multilingual students and students with cross cultural experiences.

HU 3900-C17 INQUIRY SEMINAR: POETRY IN TRANSLATION

Cocola, James (contact info: jcocola@wpi.edu, office SL 26)

CRN: 21420

Effective poetry translations require two languages: the language of the original poem and the language of the intended translation. In this seminar we will draw on our knowledge of English and several other languages as we engage with poetry in translation from various periods and traditions. Reading published translations and writing original translations in languages more or less familiar to us, including Arabic, Chinese, German, Italian, and Spanish, we will rely on resources including fellow language learners and machine translation engines in order to complete project work, which might include analytic essays on theories of translation or specific translated works as well as original portfolios of translated poetry.

HU 3900-C22 INQUIRY SEMINAR: LOADED LANGUAGE: DISCOURSE AND POWER

Danielski, Althea (contact info: amdanielski@wpi.edu, office SL 015)

CRN: 21753

This inquiry seminar explores how the language we use can define identity, reflect social structures, and create and maintain power differentials. We will use critical discourse analysis to analyze spoken and written language in our local community, our nation, and the global stage, and practice strategies for communicating across cultures. Students will research a topic of interest related to language use, such as: coded language, language discrimination, the lines between free speech and hate speech, language policy and policing, or issues regarding regional, cultural or international variations of English. Our goal is to become ethical speakers and writers of this loaded language of ours, English. This course satisfies the Humanities and Arts Inquiry Seminar requirement.

*Recommended background: experience in learning a second language, and an interest in intercultural communication, linguistics, or social justice issues. **This course may fit well for students who have HUA depth in Writing, English, International Studies, History, Philosophy or a Modern Language.***

HU 3910-C05 PRACTICUM IN HUA: THEATRE TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

Eddy, James (contact info: jseddy@wpi.edu, office SL 018)

CRN: 20309

This Practicum in Theatre Technology will involve participants in the rehearsal and staging of the annual New Voices festival of original works, a collaboration of Humanities and Arts, Drama/Theatre, and Masque. The Drama/Theatre professors work together every year to stage the festival. New Voices opens in the fifth week of the term, with the following weeks devoted to assembling a project portfolio which documents the results of the study. Students may enroll in this practicum for design, technology, stage management, management, or other production areas with the approval of the professor.

HU 3910-C09 PRACTICUM IN HUA: ACTING, DIRECTING, DRAMATURGY FOR NEW VOICES (6)

Giapoudzi, Desponia (contact info: HUA office SL125)

CRN: 20526

In this practicum qualified undergraduates have the opportunity to act, direct, or work in other creative endeavors on the annual New Voices annual original play festival performed in D term in the Little Theatre.

HU 3900-C05 INQUIRY SEMINAR: NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN AMERICAN LITERATURE

Schachterle, Lance E. (contact info: les@wpi.edu, office SL 027)

CRN: 21389

We will consider four classic works dealing with the American environment--its natural richness and the urges and needs of European settlers to harvest those riches thoughtlessly. We will also examine how white Europeans regarded native Americans and Afro-Americans also as property to be exploited. Works to be considered are Cooper's 1823 novel *The Pioneers*, Emerson's 1836 essay "Nature," Thoreau's 1854 book *Walden* and Faulkner's novella *The Bear* (1942).

C 2019 History**HU 3900-C19 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MOROCCO**

Brahimi, Mohamed (contact info: mbrahimi@wpi.edu, office SL 114)

CRN: 21246

HU 3900-C14 INQUIRY SEMINAR: AMERICAN SOCIAL HISTORY

Baller, William A. (contact info: baller@wpi.edu, office SL 408C)

CRN: 21418

This seminar will focus on the social history of the 1960s, especially the Vietnam War's effect on young Americans. Students can investigate the war's effect on the common soldier and the anti-war movement. Students can also research and examine the decade's impact on women, civil rights, or sports.

HU 3900-C07 INQUIRY SEMINAR: DDT, SILENT SPRING AND RISE MOD. AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTALISM

FILLED

Cullon, Joseph F. (contact info: jcullon@wpi.edu, office SL 241)

CRN: 20378

In 1948, the developer of DDT won the Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine. In 1962, Rachel Carson attacked the pesticide for its deleterious environmental effects in the pages of *Silent Spring*, giving force and focus to an emergent modern American environmental movement. In 1972, the agricultural use of DDT was banned in the United States. Yet, DDT continued to be manufactured and exported as part of US-supported international development projects addressing problems of disease and famine. Further, the controversy surrounding Rachel Carson's book persists to the present as critics continue to mount attacks on the science and politics behind the very laws and regulations that *Silent Spring* helped initiate. Beginning with *Silent Spring*, this seminar addresses the myriad issues surrounding the balance of risks and benefits of DDT within and beyond America's borders. Readings will balance primary and secondary sources, while students will write one short paper and a longer, independent interpretative essay on a topic relating to the on-going controversies surrounding DDT.

HU 3900-C11 INQUIRY SEMINAR: AMERICAN HISTORY THROUGH FILM - FILLED

Hanlan, James P. (contact info: jphanlan@wpi.edu, office SL 028)

CRN: 21390

This Inquiry Seminar is intended as the culminating experience in Humanities and Arts for students who have completed five courses in Humanities and Arts, including at least two courses in American History (one at the 2000-level or higher). It is also suitable for students with interests in American Studies. The class will focus on a particular theme in the American experience to be chosen by the instructor, and students will write individual papers broadly

centered on that theme. Students will develop the ability to think, discuss, and write about American history and American Studies.

HU 3900-C06 INQUIRY SEMINAR: HISTORY OF SPORT - FILLED

Hansen, Peter H. (contact info: phansen@wpi.edu, office SL 107)

CRN: 20524

This Inquiry Seminar will focus on the historical and cultural studies of sport. Students will give presentations and research and write about a topic related to the history of sports. This seminar is appropriate for students with a background in any area of U.S., European, or world history.

HU 3900-C-23 INQUIRY SEMINAR: NUMBERS AND SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL CHANGE

San Martin, William (contact info: [HUA office SL 125](#))

CRN: 21830

This seminar examines the history of quantification in modern environmental sciences and policy. We will study the process by which numbers and other quantitative mechanisms to collect, process, and predict data have monopolized our understanding of both ecological and social change. We will pay particular attention to the social, economic, and political dimensions of the role of numbers, models, and metrics assessing and addressing socio-ecological change locally and globally. This seminar will integrate the history of earth and planetary sciences, quantification, and computing to think about how methods and technologies shape our understanding and decisions about environmental and social change. Some of the topics this seminar will address are mathematical climate models, predictors and risk management techniques, the use of computer models to inform decision-making, and current debates on how to create effective and ethical metrics for sustainable practices, sciences, and policies.

HU 3900-C08 INQUIRY SEMINAR: HISTORY TECH & OCEANS – FILLED

Spanagel, David I. (contact info: spanagel@wpi.edu, office SL 239)

CRN: 21018

This inquiry seminar in the history and technology of undersea exploration will focus on changes in the earth and ocean sciences that took place during the 20th century. Weekly meetings will be devoted to understanding the roles of scientific theories, technological change, the growth of different research institutions, broader cultural trends, and political and military events, on our changing understanding of the undersea environment. Students will write brief individual papers analyzing scholarly historical works that have analyzed these themes; will collaborate in small groups in the composition of more substantial historical research articles; and will design and/or participate in a culminating historical simulation activity. The final grade will depend heavily on engagement in all aspects of the seminar experience. [NOTE: Any students who have acquired HUA "depth" in history, history of science/technology, or global history are invited to apply for a spot in this inquiry seminar. Preference will be extended to anyone who successfully completes any regular 3000-level History "topics" seminar course prior to the inquiry seminar.]

HU 3900-C12 INQUIRY SEMINAR: POST SOCIALIST BUSINESS

Rudolph, Jennifer (contact info: jrudolph@wpi.edu, office SL 408B)

CRN: 21015

~~With the fall of the USSR more than two decades ago and with China's integration of capitalist practices into its economy, communism and socialism have receded from the world stage. As businesses and societies have become more market based in the former and current socialist states, what type of companies have emerged? Are they capitalist, socialist, hybrid, or something entirely new? In this seminar we examine questions about how businesses and industries, both state owned and private, operate in the new economic landscapes that have emerged. We look at how they contribute to or hinder transformation in socialist and post-socialist states. Class time will be devoted to acquiring a common foundation on approaches to the study of business in social and economic transformation and exploration of issues. From there, each student will research and analyze a specific business history topic or case study of his or her choice. Students can focus on any post-socialist or market-oriented socialist state (eg., China, Russia, Vietnam, and Cuba). Presentation of student work will open discussion to a diverse set of business and economic history topics. This seminar is appropriate for students with depth in history.~~

C 2019 Music

HU 3910-C03 PRACTICUM: MUSIC TECHNOLOGY: MULTI-CHANNEL ALGORITHMIC MUSIC COMPOSITION - FILLED

Bianchi, Frederick (contact info: bianchi@wpi.edu office AH205)

CRN: 20737

The seminar will investigate various processes, methods, and strategies used for creating multi-channel music. This will include interacting in real time with multi-channel sound systems used for sound design, sound installations, and other creative applications. The seminar will also explore the relationship between sonification, automation, aesthetics, and psychoacoustics when composing for 40 channels of discrete audio.

HU 3900-C03 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MUSIC & SOCIETY

Blumhofer, Jonathan (contact info: jblumhofer@wpi.edu and dweeks@wpi.edu, office AH 215)

CRN: 20528

HU 3900-C16 INQUIRY SEMINAR: JAZZ HISTORY DATABASE - FILLED

Falco, Richard G. (contact info: rfalco@wpi.edu, office AH 210)

CRN: 21419

This Inquiry Seminar in Jazz Music History will assemble a team of students to conduct field research by visiting the homes of New England based jazz artists and their families. Data collected in the field will include oral history interviews, old photographs, recordings, print media, and radio and television shows. Materials will be processed according to specific guidelines and added to an online permanent collection at jazzhistorydatabase.com.

HU 3910-C07 PRACTICUM IN HUA: ADAPT/MODED INST-ACC

Burton, Scott (contact info: V.J. Manzo vjmanzo@wpi.edu, office 209)

CRN: 21841

This practicum focuses on the creation of acoustic and electric-adapted musical instruments and their implementation in society. We will focus on developing non-software-based instruments, effects, and amplification systems as well as identifying the various approaches that lead to widespread adoption of these innovations. Existing projects will be examined and students will work alone and in teams in a variety of ways on creating new musical instruments, modifying existing instruments, and developing appropriate tuning systems to accommodate new works.

HU 3910-C08 PRACTICUM IN HUA: MUSIC

David Ibbett (contact info: Professor Weeks dweeks@wpi.edu, office AH 212)

CRN: 21842

HU 3900-C21 INQUIRY SEMINAR: THE BEATLES

Minichiello, Steve (contact info: Professor Weeks dweeks@wpi.edu, office AH 212)

CRN: 21646

As a musical and cultural force, The Beatles rocked the 60's establishment to its core. Art...music...attitudes...fashion...morals...almost every aspect of society changed in the 1960's. And four lads from Liverpool -- John, Paul, George and Ringo -- were as pivotal to these changes as any political or religious leader. John Lennon famously said, "We didn't lead any revolution, we just reflected it". Many would challenge that assertion. This class will familiarize students with the broad social, musical and historical scope of The Beatles' recordings, lyrics, films, music videos and politics; while simultaneously placing their work and achievements in the cultural context of the '60's.

HU 3910-C04 PRACTICUM IN HUA: ARRANGING - FILLED

Weeks, Douglas G. (contact info: dweeks@wpi.edu, office AH 212)

CRN: 20774

C 2019 Philosophy/Religion

HU 3900-C09 INQUIRY SEMINAR: ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHY - FILLED

Gottlieb, Roger S. (contact info: gottlieb@wpi.edu, office SL 004)

CRN: 20337

The environmental crisis challenges basic moral values, ways of understanding relations between humanity and the rest of life, and political norms. For example: do mountains, trout, or monkeys have their own moral value, outside of their use for people? Can a society be "democratic" if it does not heed the interests of the non-human? With

human activity affecting all of the earth, can we still distinguish between humanity and nature? In a culturally diverse world, does the environmental crisis provide the basis for a universal ethical code? How much consumption is morally legitimate and how much is, well, too much? How does the environmental crisis affect traditional religious, philosophical or political perspectives? Is there a way to face the future without despair? In this seminar we will do some shared reading exploring these challenges, and then each student will focus on a particular topic.

HU 3900-C15 INQUIRY SEMINAR: ENDANGERED BODIES

McWeeny, Jennifer (contact info: jmcweeny@wpi.edu office SL330)

CRN: 21519

Which kinds of bodies are endangered in our contemporary world? What does it mean for a body to be endangered, to be always at risk of violence and on the brink of a physical, psychological, or cultural extinction? What kinds of geo-political, economic, and social structures facilitate endangerment? Which moral, political, and spiritual practices bring hope and protection in the face of endangerment? This capstone seminar provides students with an opportunity to investigate a variety of endangered bodies and populations, including endangered species, refugees, immigrants, indigenous peoples, survivors of violence and trauma, war veterans, homeless people, the poor, transgender, intersex, and queer individuals, people with disabilities and illnesses, and many others. Seminar participants are required to design and pursue independent research on a topic of their choosing that speaks to this theme. The seminar will culminate in the creation of a project paper, which will be presented to and reviewed by the author's peers.

HU3900-C13 INQUIRY SEMINAR: PHILOSOPHY/RELIGION

Moody, Rebecca (contact info: **HUA office SL 125**)

CRN: 21016

C 2019 Writing (see also English)

HU 3910-C06 PRACTICUM IN HUA: WRITING FOR THE SOFTWARE AND ELECTRONICS INDUSTRIES

Lewis, Kevin (contact info: kmlewis@wpi.edu, office SL 241)

CRN: 21580

Why do we need to write product documentation in an age of automated computer devices, modern user interfaces, and the seemingly self-thinking Internet of Things (IoT)? While software and consumer electronics have evolved to the point where human interaction is often times unnecessary, these systems still require multiple levels of documentation including set-up procedures, user-interface texts, product manuals, tutorials, and engineering references. This practicum explores how written documents are applied to and integrated with software and consumer electronics, covering the different types of documents that are common to these industries. Building on your writing from other courses and projects, you will apply concepts and processes specific to product documentation and focus on techniques in planning, audience assessment, and product research. You will also learn about the industry-standard tools and platforms, such as online content and help-authoring tools. You will quickly take a hands-on approach by analyzing documentation sets for real-world commercial software and electronics products and then writing your own content for a commercial software or electronics product, which means applying newly learned concepts in structured authoring, information design, and content generation. All of this work will culminate in a final project that has you create a user guide, tutorial, online content, or similar information system, demonstrating your knowledge and skills in writing for software and consumer electronics.

D 2019 Art/Art History/Architecture

HU 3910-D01 PRACTICUM IN HUA: VISUAL PERSUASION - FILLED

Bigonah, Roshanak (contact info: rbigonah@wpi.edu, office SL 031)

CRN: 21069

In this practicum, students will produce a collection of art projects such as photography, 3D modeling, or non-digital/traditional arts to promote an idea, a product, or a cause. Topics such as research, marketing, as well as examining the elements and principles of arts and visual culture could be integrated in this practicum to make an effective persuasive presentation. This course is appropriate for students with 'depth' in either traditional or digital art.

HU 3910-D10 PRACTICUM IN HUA: PREPRODUCTION TECHNIQUES

Chery, Farley (contact info: fjchery@wpi.edu SL206)

CRN: 21072

This course will take students through the early stages of cinematic and film creation. The course blend 2D and 3D tools to experiment with shot angles, design characters and 3D models. The final project results in a feature length storyboard and animatic. Students will be expected to create dynamic shots, learn or know the proper camera

technique. Work functionally as a group while work in an iterative purposeful manner to give a clear vision to the production team.

HU 3910-D12 PRACTICUM IN HUA: tbd (IMGD)

Gonzalez, Adryen (contact info:

CRN: 21829

HU 3910-D07 PRACTICUM IN HUA: 2D DESIGN TO 3D SCULPTURE

Gutierrez, Ed (contact info: ergutierrez@wpi.edu, office SL 206)

CRN: 21070

Maquettes are 3-dimensional sculptures of characters that are used as guides for traditional animation and also used as a pre-visualization tool for developing CG models for video games and CG movies. Maquettes are small preliminary models or studies made of wire armature and clay – this is not a virtual/digital sculpting class. The basics of classical study in drawing, perspective, composition, and tonal drawing will have been practiced before sculpting a 3-dimensional clay maquette. Students will learn sculpting techniques to form their maquette by applying an anatomical understanding. Students will design and sculpt their own maquettes and all students will evaluate, critique, and collaborate to contribute to each other's work. A theme will be proposed so that all character/creature sculptures will exist in the same world and story. The following courses are excellent preparation for this practicum: Basic Drawing and Perspective and Figure Drawing.

The skills acquired in this practicum will equip students with the fundamentals of fine arts creativity in classical media, which they will be able to apply to their works with digital media.

HU 3910-D06 PRACTICUM: NATURE, DESIGN, and ART - FILLED

Keller, Marie T. (contact info: mkeller@wpi.edu SL 031)

CRN: 20729

Nature has been a source of inspiration for artists throughout history. In this practicum, students will study forms and patterns found in nature and use their observations to solve design problems and create artwork. Related art and architecture will be reviewed for additional inspiration. The goal for each student is to develop a body of work suitable for professional presentation. Prospective students with traditional skills are encouraged to apply, as are students with non-traditional skills.

HU 3910-D09 PRACTICUM: FIGURE IN MOTION

Reinhardt, Jo Ellen (contact info: jreinhardt@wpi.edu, office SL 114)

CRN: 20794

For this practicum, students will design a body-of-work consisting of four cohesive pieces centering on the figure. The figure may be human, animal, or an imaginary character. The work should display the figure in motion in four different positions or stages. Background imagery may be included. Students may choose their medium, which may include graphite, charcoal, pastel, paint, or digital. All materials and supplies are the responsibility of the student.

HU3910-D08 PRACTICUM: LIGHT ART - FILLED

Rosenstock, Joshua (contact info: jrosen@wpi.edu, office SL 208)

CRN: 21024

This studio art practicum will introduce students to techniques and practices in the creation of works of light art. Students will explore the application of creative lighting technology to objects, spaces, and fashion, culminating in the creation of an original work of electronic light art. Topics may include light painting, working with LEDs and electroluminescent wire, 3d printing, programming for art with Arduino and Processing, and basic electronics skills.

HU 3900-D02 INQUIRY SEMINAR: THE COLLECTIONS OF THE WORCESTER ART MUSEUM

Welu, James (contact info: jimwelu@aol.com, office SL 14

CRN: 20308

This course explores the Worcester Art Museum's world-renowned holdings of 50 centuries of art. Special attention will be given to works demonstrating the Museum's pioneering role in collecting. These works range from ancient Roman mosaics to late 20th-century video art. The class consists of lectures at WPI and regular visits to the museum where students will sharpen their observation skills by focusing on original works. Students will select a work from WAM and use it as a touchstone to explore through a paper and gallery presentation the Museum's collection as an educational resource.

D 2019 English (see also Writing)

HU 3900-D20 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD

Brattin, Joel J. (contact info: jjb@wpi.edu, office SL 024)

CRN: 21356

Charles Dickens's last novel, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (1869-70), was left unfinished when Dickens suddenly died after a stroke on 8 June 1870. Participants in this Inquiry Seminar in British Literature will examine the surviving portion of the novel closely – not just as a mystery or literary puzzle, but as an important work of the creative imagination. Students will explore the rich collection of materials in WPI's Robert D. Fellman Dickens collection, and will conduct and present original research on topics related to *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*.

HU 3900-A01 INQUIRY SEMINAR: CREATIVE WRITING: SCI-FI, HORROR, AND FANTASY

Ephraim, Michelle K. (contact info: ephraim@wpi.edu, office SL 237)

CRN: 11174

In this inquiry seminar we will study three genres of fiction writing: sci-fi, horror, and fantasy. In addition to reading examples of these genres and analyzing their use of literary conventions, students will write their own 20-30 page creative project. This seminar is for students who have taken previous courses at WPI in both literature and writing. During the draft writing process, students will read each other's work and provide verbal feedback in a "writing workshop" format.

HU 3900-D01 INQUIRY SEMINAR: FRAG FORM OF KNOWLEDGE

Harmon, Joshua (contact info: jharmon@wpi.edu, office SL 022)

CRN: 21362

"Fragments are the only form I trust," writer Donald Barthelme once claimed. But what is the fragmentary form, and why trust it more than others? This seminar, through study of various fragmentary texts (both works composed of small pieces and works that seem unfinished or incomplete), will try to answer such questions as a way of informing your own fragmentary writing. Our focus will be on creative nonfiction (memoir, the personal essay, cultural criticism, etc.) that uses the fragment as form, as process, as metaphor. Writers discussed may include Als, Auster, Carson, Cha, Davis, Metcalf, Rankine, Shields, and Weinberger, among others.

HU 3900-D14 INQUIRY SEMINAR: LITERATURE AND SCIENCE: PYNCHON'S *GRAVITY'S RAINBOW*

Schachterle, Lance E. (contact info: les@wpi.edu, office SL 027)

CRN: 20477

Like science and literature? Thomas Pynchon started at Cornell as an engineering major and graduated as an English major. His masterpiece, *Gravity's Rainbow*, is a wild, hilarious and profound meditation on human freedom and fatality, with the setting of an historical novel at the end of World War II. There's a lot of science and technology in the book too. This seminar is designed for students interested in British or American literature in the last two hundred years; we will work our way through a long novel to which students can relate virtually any previous interests or experiences in modern literature (or history, music, or film).

D 2019 History

HU 3900-D12 INQUIRY SEMINAR: WORLD HISTORY AND PROJECT CENTERS

Addison, W.A. Bland (contact info: addison@wpi.edu, office SL 238)

CRN: 21477

HU 3900-D04 INQUIRY SEMINAR: THE HOLOCAUST AND WORLD WAR II - FILLED

Baller, William A. (contact info: baller@wpi.edu, office SL 408C)

CRN: 20586

This seminar will focus on Hitler's war against the Jews. Topics will include the origins and progress of the Holocaust, limited efforts among the Allies to assist its victims, and ways the event still reverberates throughout the world, including Holocaust denial. Students will read Holocaust memoirs as well as recent scholarly literature on the topic. A WPI professor who lived under Nazi and communist regimes will assist the seminar as a guest lecturer.

HU 3900-D10 INQUIRY SEMINAR: EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY

Bullock, Steven C. (contact info: sbullock@wpi.edu, office SL 235)

CRN: 20338

This Inquiry Seminar in History and American Studies examines Mason Locke Weems's *Life of George Washington*, the most popular early biography of America's first president--and the first to tell the (perhaps made-up) story of

Washington chopping down the cherry tree. Students will write papers on the book itself and on its connections to Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary America. They will also consider more broadly how to think and write about the past.

HU 3900-D03 INQUIRY SEMINAR: TOPICS IN HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY - FILLED

Clark, Constance (contact info: cclark@wpi.edu, office SL 408D)

CRN: 20618

HU 3900-D09 INQUIRY SEMINAR: DIGITAL HISTORY - FILLED

Cullon, Joseph F. (contact info: jcullon@wpi.edu, office SL 241)

CRN: 21068

Since the Enlightenment, artisans, mechanics and engineers have sought to create machines that worked like living creatures. From defecating ducks and harpsicord players in the eighteenth century to robotic vacuums and autonomous drones in the twenty-first century, automata/androids/robots have been and are fascinating technical achievements as well as existential sites for debates about the definitions and limits of what it means to be human. Just as engineers have endeavored to create working facsimiles of living organisms so too have futurists ventured to imagine a world shaped by artificial intelligence and robots. Therefore, this class explores both the real and the imagined to gauge the ways robots as technical creation and imaginative constructs have evolved. Beginning with the Enlightenment automata and concluding with the promise of autonomous cars, the seminar incorporates materials from engineering and computer science, philosophy, history of technology, and cultural studies to think about how people have used robots not just in theory but in art, film, fiction and everyday life.

HU 3900-D18 INQUIRY SEMINAR: PETROLEUM AND ITS ALTERNATIVES - FILLED

Galante, John (contact info: jsgalante@wpi.edu, office SL 234)

CRN: 21134

This Inquiry Seminar will explore the questions, "How, why and to what degree is modern life dependent on petroleum use?" and "What paths might exist through which humanity can moderate its dependence on petroleum?" Students will review different approaches to these questions from the demand and supply sides of the market, and through an examination of alternative energy sources and demand efficiency technologies. They might examine a petroleum product of their choice and investigate its history, uses and future position in consumer markets relative to alternatives; they might choose a hydrocarbon resource, across geographies and periods of time, and study the history of its exploitation, current status and likely future amid changes in the global energy matrix; or they might foreground an alternative energy source or efficiency technology in their research, and address its likely impact on petroleum demand and supply.

HU 3900-D21 INQUIRY SEMINAR: LABOR & EUROPEAN LEFT - FILLED

Everett, Parker (contact info: pdeverett@wpi.edu, office SL 234)

CRN: 21364

This course will examine the growth and development of the labor movement and of left-wing politics in Europe from the French and Industrial Revolutions to the present, touching on important events and processes such as the Revolution of 1848, the Paris Commune, the formation of the German Social Democratic Party, The Russian Revolution, the growth of the welfare state, and the contemporary collapse of the welfare state and of union power.

HU 3900-D22 INQUIRY SEMINAR: URBAN HISTORY - FILLED

Everett, Parker (contact info: pdeverett@wpi.edu, office SL 234)

CRN: 21365

After a brief exploration of premodern cities, this course will explore the growth and development of the form, function, and perception of modern cities. It will examine large social processes like urbanization, industrialization, suburbanization, globalization, and deindustrialization, but it will also explore the more local and culturally specific responses to these processes.

HU 3900-D26 INQUIRY SEMINAR: SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION HUBS

San Martin, William (contact info: [HUA office SL 125](#))

CRN: 21832

Innovation "hubs," "labs," and "incubators" are today at the center of the so-called "global entrepreneurship movement" and "knowledge-based" or "innovation economies." This seminar examines the spatial, cultural, and technological history of sustainable innovation from a global and comparative perspective. Using cases studies including WPI's Global Projects Program and others from around the world, we will analyze successes and failures in how expert communities, universities, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and industries, have envisioned and designed environments that foster sustainable innovation. We will pay particular attention to the

role of space, culture, and mobility in shaping the creation and adoption of novel environmental technologies and solutions. This seminar will combine the history of knowledge and technology transfer, economic and innovation theories, and science and technology policy to reflect on how, when, and where innovation happens. Some of the topics we will examine are the rise of innovation studies and sustainable development, the geographic and cultural aspects of technological and behavioral change, the socio-political dimensions of scientific and technical expertise, and the role of local knowledge and indigenous innovation.

HU 3900-D07 INQUIRY SEMINAR: ENLIGHTENMENT SCIENCE SOCIETY

Spanagel, David I. (contact info: spanagel@wpi.edu, office SL 239)

CRN: 20584

This inquiry seminar will explore the interactions between science and the broader society in Europe and North America during the Enlightenment era (lasting roughly from the 17th century to the beginning of the 19th century). Together we will examine debates about the fundamental Enlightenment proposition that human rationality (science) should be broadly applied to solve all kinds of political, economic, and social problems. Weekly meetings will be devoted to uncovering and understanding the varying perspectives of key historical figures who were active in (or who provided contemporary commentary about) these debates. Students will write brief individual papers analyzing scholarly historical works that have analyzed the sciences during the Enlightenment period; will collaborate in small groups in the composition of more substantial historical research articles; and will design and/or participate in a culminating historical simulation activity. The final grade will depend heavily on engagement in all aspects of the seminar experience. [NOTE: Any students who have acquired HUA "depth" in American or European history, history of science/technology, or philosophy/religion are especially welcome to apply for a spot in this inquiry seminar. Preference will be extended to anyone who successfully completes any regular 3000-level History "topics" seminar course prior to the inquiry seminar.]

HU 3900-D13 INQUIRY SEMINAR: ASIAN HISTORY AND NATIONALISM

Rudolph, Jennifer (contact info: jrudolph@wpi.edu, office SL 408B)

CRN: 21022

This inquiry seminar in Asian history will focus on national identity formation in the age of nation-states. Questions to be explored in class include: What is modernity? What makes a nation? Individual student research projects might explore such questions as Does Japan have particular national or cultural characteristics that contributed to it being the first non-Western country to industrialize and modernize? How does Korea maintain its identity in the age of globalization? What role does nationalism play in today's world? Common readings will provide a foundation for individual exploration of specific research questions. Presentation of student work will open discussion to various dimensions of identity in Asia. This seminar is appropriate for students with depth in history.

D 2019 Music

HU 3910-D PRACTICUM: MUSIC TECHNOLOGY: MUSIC TECHNOLOGY MULTICHANNEL SOUND

Bianchi, Frederick (contact info: bianchi@wpi.edu office AH205)

CRN:

The practicum will investigate various processes, methods, and strategies used for creating and listening to multichannel music. Because the topic is broad, your research may include aspects of the following: interacting in real time with multichannel sound systems, exploring sound perception, understanding brain function and spatial sound hearing, composition, automation, aesthetics, and the psychoacoustics of multichannel audio.

HU 3900-D19 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MUSIC & SOCIETY

Blumhofer, Jonathan (contact info: jblumhofer@wpi.edu and dweeks@wpi.edu, office AH 215)

CRN: 20339

HU 3910-D05 PRACTICUM IN HUA: MUSIC IN MULTIMEDIA AND GAMING ENVIRONMENTS

Manzo, V.J. (contact info: vjmanzo@wpi.edu, office AH 209)

CRN: 21071

This practicum focuses on interactive music environments in multimedia installations and gaming engines. Existing projects will be examined and students will work in teams in a variety of ways on a music oriented gaming project including programming and designing music gaming environments in Unity 3D, creating text and video narrative for these environments, graphic and 3D modeling for game levels and other elements, developing virtual instruments within the gaming world and more.

HU 3900-D11 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MUSIC AS SOCIAL LIFE

Odria, Carlos (contact info: codria@wpi.edu, office AH 211)

CRN: 20339

In his seminal book *Music as Social Life*, ethnomusicologist Thomas Turino affirms that music and dance are important to “people’s understanding of themselves and their identities, to the formation and sustenance of social groups, to spiritual and emotional communication, to political movements, and to other fundamental aspects of social life” (2008: 2). Building upon Turino’s ideas, this seminar begins with a review of selected case studies of music in different geographic locations and cultural contexts around the world. Through an analysis of the interconnections between social processes and music-making, students will gain insights into how people shape their communities while creating music. At the end of the term, students will present a research project focused on a particular music scene or musician in the New England area or anywhere in the world where they have done projects or hope to do projects. The research will address the connections between music-making and social life and may be interdisciplinary in nature.

HU 3900-D11 PRACTICUM IN HUA: VOCAL PERFORMANCE - FILLED

Rohde, Joshua (contact info: jwrohde@wpi.edu, office FBC First Baptist Church)

CRN: 21133

Class time will be spent with each student performing for the class and critiquing and discussing each other’s performance. An accompanist will be provided for those that need one. All students will give a performance during a solo recital at the conclusion of the course.

HU 3910-D03 PRACTICUM IN HUA: INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PERFORMANCE - FILLED

Weeks, Douglas G. (contact info: dweeks@wpi.edu, office AH 212)

CRN: 20307

Students will each present a solo recital at the conclusion of the course. Class time will be spent performing for the class and critiquing and discussing each other’s performance. An accompanist will be provided for those that need one.

D 2019 Philosophy/Religion**HU 3900-D08 INQUIRY SEMINAR: THE MEANING OF LIFE - FILLED**

Gottlieb, Roger S. (contact info: gottlieb@wpi.edu, office SL 004)

CRN: 20525

Why are we alive? What is the meaning of human existence? What is the good, right or best way to live? Does such a thing exist? For nearly 4000 years humans have been asking these questions, which might seem to be the most important questions anyone can ask. In this seminar we will examine a variety of traditional and contemporary answers embodied in philosophy, religion, spirituality, political theory, and literature. Students will generate their own responses by interacting with other views and reflecting on their own experiences and beliefs.

HU 3900-D17 INQUIRY SEMINAR: SCIENCE AND RELIGION

Telliel, Yunus (contact info: **HUA office SL125**)

CRN: 21020

From heated battles between climate scientists and populist politicians, to emerging neuroscientific research on religious experience, ‘science and religion’ remains a controversial topic in the American public sphere. Academic and popular discussions of the relationship between science and religion tend to fixate on questions of compatibility - e.g., is harmony possible, or is conflict inevitable? While exploring the insights that can be gleaned from this approach, this seminar will interrogate the presumed distinction between ‘science’ on the one hand, and ‘religion’ on the other, that makes the very question of compatibility possible in the first place. Given that scientific and religious discourses were frequently entangled in premodern Christianity, Islam, and other religious traditions, how have modern societies come to demarcate a set of intellectual sensibilities and knowledge practices as ‘scientific’ and another set as ‘religious’? To fully consider this question, we will focus on the work of boundary-making – that is, the establishing and policing of boundaries between science and religion. Our focus will be on several terms at the heart of the science and religion debate, including *fact*, *truth*, *objectivity*, *evidence*, *experience*, and the *supernatural*, and the extent to which these terms stabilize or destabilize presumed boundaries between science and religion. Shared readings will be from philosophy, history of science, religious studies, and anthropology. This multidisciplinary selection will also introduce workshop participants to a variety of methodological concerns, from historical analysis to ethnographic inquiry. In addition, workshop participants will have the opportunity to explore a topic of their choice through independent research projects that will be developed vis-a-vis collective feedback and workshoping in the seminar.

D 2019 Writing (see also English)

HU3900-D25 INQUIRY SEMINAR: CREATIVE WRITING: CLI-FI: FICTIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Aguilar, Joseph (contact info: [HUA office SL125](#))

CRN: 21823

Activist and writer Dan Bloom coined the term “cli-fi” in 2007 with the goal of publicizing both a unique literary tradition and the mounting perils of global warming. In this seminar, we will explore important works of 20th- and 21st-century fiction that tackle vital issues related to climate change. The course considers the following questions: How has the future of the earth’s climate been viewed by past generations of fiction writers and how does that vision align with present realities? How does fiction alter the way we view global warming and our own role in it? How do writers handle the science of climate change when writing for a general readership? In addition to carefully analyzing diverse works of cli-fi, students will produce, workshop, and edit a 20- to 30-page cli-fi-inspired creative project in the genre of their choice.

HU 3900-D16 INQUIRY SEMINAR: HUMAN FACTORS OF MEDICINE

Faber, Brenton (contact info: bdfaber@wpi.edu, office SL 019)

CRN: 21019

In 2015, the MCAT exam expanded to include a new emphasis on the psychological, social, and biological foundations of behavior. At the time, Darrell Kirch, President of the Association of American Medical Colleges, stated that the new changes emerged from recognizing that “Being a good Doctor is about more than scientific knowledge. It also requires an Understanding of people.” Kirch continued to say that these subjects will help aspiring clinicians to “build strong knowledge of the socio-cultural and behavioral determinants of health.” In this Inquiry Seminar students will use their prior HUA courses to conduct examinations into the socio-cultural and behavioral determinants of health. Students will focus on one or more foundational Areas and prepare a final project that formalizes their learning in the topic area.

HU 3900-D23 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MEMOIR WRITING

Higgins, Lorriane (contact info: ldh@wpi.edu office SL 020)

CRN: 21366

In this seminar, students will read about the art of memoir writing, discussing a variety of sample memoirs and experimenting with various styles and strategies as they write from their own experiences. Weeks 1-3 will focus on reading and discussion; the latter part of the term will be devoted to significant writing and revision. Student drafts will be “work-shopped” by the group in later meetings. The final product will be polished memoir of 20-50 pages.

HU 3900-D04 PRACTICUM IN HUA: WRITING FOR THE SOFTWARE AND ELECTRONICS INDUSTRIES

Lewis, Kevin (contact info: kmlewis@wpi.edu, office SL 241)

CRN: 21581

Why do we need to write product documentation in an age of automated computer devices, modern user interfaces, and the seemingly self-thinking Internet of Things (IoT)? While software and consumer electronics have evolved to the point where human interaction is often times unnecessary, these systems still require multiple levels of documentation including set-up procedures, user-interface texts, product manuals, tutorials, and engineering references. This practicum explores how written documents are applied to and integrated with software and consumer electronics, covering the different types of documents that are common to these industries. Building on your writing from other courses and projects, you will apply concepts and processes specific to product documentation and focus on techniques in planning, audience assessment, and product research. You will also learn about the industry-standard tools and platforms, such as online content and help-authoring tools. You will quickly take a hands-on approach by analyzing documentation sets for real-world commercial software and electronics products and then writing your own content for a commercial software or electronics product, which means applying newly learned concepts in structured authoring, information design, and content generation. All of this work will culminate in a final project that has you create a user guide, tutorial, online content, or similar information system, demonstrating your knowledge and skills in writing for software and consumer electronics.

HU 3900-D15 INQUIRY SEMINAR: WRITING

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