

FIRST YEAR SEMINARS--SPRING 2010
DESCRIPTIONS (all courses are 3 credits)

BOT F 107A—EVOLUTION: THE GREAT DEBATE

(Prof. Hickey, MPF IVA; CAS D-BIO) Examination, though readings and discussions, of modern and historical concepts of the nature of science, evolution, creationism, and intelligent design. Emphasis will be placed on the rationales and evidences supporting each for the various understandings of biological diversity. **MWF 9:05-9:55 (PSN 322)**

BOT F107C – GERMS, GENES, AND EVOLUTION

(Prof Money; MPF IVA, CAS D-BIO) This seminar explores the work of nineteenth century biologists that serves as the foundation for the modern scientific enterprise and secular view of life. This will involve carefully-selected readings of books and articles by scientists, including Pasteur, Mendel, and Darwin, visits to cultural institutions in the tristate area, classroom discussion, and written and verbal presentations by students. The primary goal is to enrich student appreciation of science by investigating its nineteenth century roots. **MW 11:15-12:30 (PBD 029)**

CHI F115—FORBIDDEN ROMANCE IN MODERN CHINESE LITERATURE AND FILM

(Prof. Yang, MPF IIB, IIIB; CAS B-LIT) Different from courses that introduce modern Chinese literature and films in general, this course is designed to introduce first-year undergraduate students to a more specific theme—the literary and cinematic presentation of forbidden love, desire, passion, and sexuality in modern China. Through surveying literary works and cinemas that describe illicit loves and unlikely romances during the whole twentieth century, it examines how the modern lure of free will and emancipated subjectivity drove Chinese writers and artist to redefine romance from multiple perspectives. This course will unfold according to a number of topics such as: The forbidden free love and marriage in Confucian society in the 1910s; new woman and female voices in love stories in the 1920s; unwelcomed romance in revolutionary period; falling in love with a sinful traitor in wartime; the forbidden sexuality during the Cultural Revolution; homoeroticism and cross-gender identity; and new cultural reality in post-modern romance. The course will also examine writers and artists who acted out in their lives the forbidden passions otherwise reserved for literature and art, and discuss censorship, persecution, and other legal and moral strictures imposed on literature and culture as a vehicle of forbidden romance. **MW 11:15-12:30 TBA (Lists also M 3:00-6:00 for screenings, but teacher will work to make films available to fit student schedules.)**

EDT F105 – THE CULTURAL CONTEXT OF INTEGRITY

(Prof. Rose; MPF IIIA) Culture, broadly defined to include the complex relationships between values, beliefs and practices of people and institutions, is a major determinant of integrity behavior. Academic integrity, for example, is impacted by the implicit and explicit messages of the academic institution, by student beliefs about the purpose of education and their own role and responsibilities in learning, and by the policies and behaviors of everyone within the institutional culture. This course will present a framework for defining and understanding integrity from a cultural perspective, and will apply the framework to current issues and in-depth case studies from academic and other settings. **TR 12:45-2:00 (MCG 418)**

ENG F103—STAGING AMERICA: IN SEARCH OF NATIONAL IDENTITY ON STAGE AND SCREEN

(Prof. Johnson, MPF IIB) Throughout American history, theatre has become a discursive site for struggles of national and individual identity. This interdisciplinary course explores how American dramas, performances, and films intersect with formative moments in the creation of the nation. In so doing, we will investigate how the nation stages itself through various performances, and how this performativity is implicated in the project of nation-making. Readings include theatre spawned from urban conflicts (*Fires in the Mirror*); Living Newspapers from the Depression-Era Federal Theatre Project (*Power*); and theatre projects about the beating of Mathew Shepard, wrongful convictions on death row, and the rise of AIDS. **WF 2:15-3:30 (PBD 029)**

GEO F106—MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON GLOBAL PEACE

(Prof. Medley, MPF IIIB) This course focuses on the study of peace, as represented across disciplinary boundaries and at local-to global scales of analyses. **Peace** will be studied as a dynamic human condition in which neither the overt violence of war/armed conflict nor the covert violence of unjust systems is used against people and places. **Peace** is the absence of war, but true peace or “positive peace” depends on the existence of political, social, economic, and environmental justice, on the maintenance of nonviolence, on respectful communication, and on the just resolution of international tensions. The lectures, readings, and other sources of learning within the liberal arts and sciences will emphasize relations among people who differ by their cultural backgrounds and resource endowments across national boundaries in order to “promote the development of informed, engaged, and responsible world citizens” in a broadly defined international community. The course will be designed to show how the study of peace or peace studies can contribute to collaborative work for positive local-to-global change when students position themselves as scholars, service practitioners, and advocates. **W 4:10-6:40 (SHD 112)**