

## Honors Courses: Fall 2001

For more information about any of these courses, consult the instructor or Gerald Reeck, the Director of the Honors Program, Eisenhower 113.

### A. DAS 110: Intro to the Honors Program in Arts & Sciences 1 Credit

#05680                      Gerald Reeck                      U 12:30                      WB 123

This is an introduction to the Honors Program and to the life of the University outside the classroom. The class will be divided into small sections (of 10-15 students), each of which will be guided by an undergraduate TA from the Honors Program. Each of these groups will do some things in common, but some activities will be unique to a given group. Attendance and two short papers during the semester will be the basis of grading in the class.

### B. Honors Introduction to the Humanities 3 Credits

A "great books" approach in which significant ideas from ancient times to our century are examined. The four sections of this course all cover the same reading list, although the perspectives and kinds of questions addressed vary to some degree according to the methods of reading and analysis employed by the department in which a particular section is offered. Irrespective of the section they enroll in, students may use the course to fulfill a requirement in any of the four departments involved in the course: English, History, Modern Languages and Philosophy. All four sections of the course meet together four times during the semester on Wednesday evenings. For more information concerning the course, see one of the instructors or Dean Reeck. Open only to entering freshmen with ACT composites of 28 or above.

ENGL 297	#11640	L. Behlman	TU 11:05	DE 120
HIST 297	#13830	A. Hamscher	MWF 9:30	EH 201
MLANG 297	#17530	R. Clark	MWF 1:30	EH 227
PHILO 297	#20760	G. Draper	TU 3:30	K 220

UGE approved. Appropriate for Philosophy/Humanities distribution requirement in the College of Arts and Sciences.

### C. Honors Sections of Regular Courses

#### 1. ENGL 110: Honors English I 3 Credits

Section A                      #11000                      Irene Ward                      MWF 10:30                      DE 120

The aim of the class is to help prepare you for the complex reading and writing tasks that you will do as a college student and later in your workplace and community. We will write a number of short essays and read material of varying difficulty. Some of your essays will be expressive pieces that tell readers something about you and your experiences, others will be informative and provide your reader with information about a topic. You will also write at least one paper that requires the use of outside sources.

You will need access to the Internet and a web browser for this course. Let your instructor know immediately if you do not have access to a computer and the Internet. If you do not own your own computer, most housing units on campus have computers, and there are public labs where students can use computers. KSU also provides each student with a free email address and dial-up Internet access for as little as \$5 a month. The dial-up service includes free software, including Netscape.

#### Required Textbooks:

Literacy, Technology, and Society: Confronting the Issues by Hawisher and Selfe  
 The New Century Handbook by Hult and Huckin  
 A College-level Dictionary

Course Packet available in the Arts and Science Copy Center (room 018) in the basement of Eisenhower Hall.

Section B	#11010	Staff	MWF 12:30	EH 224
Section C	#11020	Staff	MWF 1:30	EH 021
Section D	#11030	Thomas Deans	TU 9:30	EH 218
Section E	#11040	Thomas Deans	TU 11:05	EH 021

This course (Section D & E) will offer an introduction to strategies for writing in college and life beyond college. The prevailing theme will be community, and in particular the various approaches to analyzing and addressing community problems. In addition to examining ways to develop ideas, do research, revise drafts, collaborate in editing groups, and improve style, students will engage in a service-learning assignment, which will involve a completing a writing project for a local non-profit agency.

#### 2. ENGL 320: The Short Story 3 Credits

Section A	#11660	Jill Deans	MWF 10:30	EH 021
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This Honors section of Short Story, similar in content to Section B of Short Story, will consider more deeply critical and theoretical approaches to literature. Instead of a final exam, students in this section will complete a research project of their own design and present their findings to the class.

#### 3. PHILO 215: Introduction to Philosophy 3 Credits

Section A      #20750      George Draper      TU 11:05      BH 111

The course will be divided into four parts. First, we will discuss argumentation and logic. The student will acquire some basic tools for doing philosophy and should become better prepared to identify, interpret and evaluate arguments. Second, we will discuss one of the fundamental features of the human condition: mortality. Our primary concern here will be to evaluate arguments for and against the common belief that it is rational to fear death. Third, we will discuss the possibility of life after death. We will also address the related question of whether it is reasonable to believe in the existence of God. And fourth, in the light of our previous discussions of mortality, immortality and God, we will examine some contemporary ethical and legal controversies concerning the taking of life.

4. POLSC 111: Introduction to Political Science      4 Credits

Section A      #21730      Michael Suleiman      W 2:30      W 123

This course is an introductory survey of political science and its subfields, particularly political thought, comparative and international politics. We will also discuss different approaches to political inquiry/research. The class will be run like a seminar where papers/reports are presented and discussed.

5. PSYCH 115: Honors General Psychology      4 Credits

Section A      #22280      Stephen Kiefer      TU 11:05      KF 120

Honors General Psychology is designed to provide students with an introduction to the science of psychology. Several strategies are used in course to have students be actively involved in the learning process. For instance, students write frequent journal entries that encourage them to apply the material learned in class to their lives. The students also read several small paperbacks (rather than one large textbook) that address several major areas of psychological study. By using these books, the instructor is able to present not only *content* but also to allow students to experience the *process* of doing psychology. An emphasis of application runs throughout the course and students are constantly encouraged to make the connection (in journals, written assignments, discussions, and exams). Preconceived and often inaccurate notions of what psychology is all about are challenged, as are sloppy thinking interpreting from research results (e.g., interpreting correlation as causation).

#### D. Honors Seminars

1. ENGL 399: Hell: Literary and Artistic Images of the Underworld  
in      Western Culture      3 Credits

Section A      #11940      Ann Warren      TU 2:05      EH 223

Throughout human history various cultures have imagined realms in the Underworld to which the dead are often confined. Although these are commonly

places of punishment, they also serve other functions for the living. This course will study such places. This will not be a course in particular theologies but rather one in which we study ways a variety of people have imagined this usually doleful Afterlife.

The central text will be Dante's Inferno. We will also read selections from earlier and later works of Western literature: Odyssey, Aeneid, Ovid's Metamorphoses, medieval vision literature, the Book of Revelation, Paradise Lost, Dr. Faustus, and more. We will supplement these readings with artwork and film focusing on particular visual aspects of the Underworld. Students will be expected to write a number of short responses to the works, as well as a term paper.

2. MC 399: Honors Broadcast News Practicum: Public Affairs Reporting for Television 3 Credits

Section A #16950 Tom Grimes TU 12:30 DO 176

TV news has always been a for-profit business. But it has always had a strong public service component. However, with the onset of 200-plus cable and satellite TV channels, which consumers can subscribe to, over-the-air broadcasters have been desperate to reclaim audiences on which they once had a monopoly. Among the casualties has been public affairs reporting. Gone from most local newscasts are regular reports from city hall, the county commission, the school board, or the state legislature. These are considered "boring beats" by many commercial TV news directors, which they believe turn off audiences. Yet surveys consistently show that audiences believe local TV news is, itself, boring. Many surveys suggest that audiences would like to see more public affairs reporting. But most commercial TV news directors are loath to take the risk because public affairs reporting is expensive to produce.

In this course, you will examine the current state of local TV news, including the style and substance of public affairs reporting, the pressures and constraints on broadcasters, and the opportunities and responsibilities that come with a license to broadcast.

To better understand the challenges that broadcasters face, you will learn how to cover public affairs for local television. You will learn how to develop story ideas, how to construct TV news stories that are appealing to watch, and you will air your work on statewide television. The vehicle we will use to air your work is KANSAS WEEK, a weekly public affairs program that airs live on the state's three public TV stations on Friday evenings at 8:30. It is produced by KPTS/Channel 8 in Wichita. We will work closely with the KPTS public affairs staff and, we hope, will produce stories about state civic affairs that will enlighten Kansas public TV audiences.

Some weeks will require you to do a lot of work outside of class. Other weeks will not require as much. But you MUST have a flexible schedule in order to perform well in this course. Experience in broadcast production is not necessary.

3. PSYCH 399: Human Factor 3 Credits

Section A      #22360      John Uhlarik      TU 2:05      EH 211

The seminar will provide an introduction to human factors psychology (also known as cognitive ergonomics), which involves designing technology by paying attention to the needs and characteristics of the user. By drawing on basic principles from disciplines such perceptual and cognitive psychology human-machine systems can be designed to be more "user friendly," which ensures that systems will be easier to use, more efficient, safer and/or associated with greater satisfaction. Relevant topics will range from aircraft controls, to computer systems to telecommunications.

### **E. Honors Colloquium**

DAS 450      #05845      Gerald Reeck  
Martin Ottenheimer      W 1:30      3 Credits

This will be a multidisciplinary examination of what is often termed "nature versus nurture." Our viewpoint, however, will be that culture and genetics are not opposing but cooperating forces in shaping who we are as humans. The basic thrust of the course will be to examine the relative importance of cultural and genetic factors in a variety of traits and behaviors. We will examine personality, intelligence, obesity, incest, alcoholism, violence and other aspects of human life that have been the subject of extensive research. Students will be able to identify areas of particular interest and emphasize them for class presentations and term papers, which will be the basis for grading. No examination will be given.

UGE approved. Appropriate for either social sciences or natural sciences distribution requirement in the College of Arts and Sciences. Anthropology majors in the Honors Program can take this course as ANTH522.

### **F. Honors Internships**

DAS 388      #05820      Gerald Reeck      By appointment      Variable

Time and place to be arranged by the student and the supervising faculty member in consultation with the Director of the Honors Program.

"A scholarly investigation related to activities in a place of employment or in a volunteer situation. Written and oral presentations are required. Pr.: Concurrence of a faculty advisor and approval of the arts and sciences honors program advisory council," KSU General Catalog.

This option is designed to accommodate academic credit for research and writing related to such off-campus internships as legislative internships and Court Appointed Child Advocates. Details of the independent study and the nature of the project to be completed should be cleared well ahead of time with the chosen faculty advisor and the Honors Director, as noted above.

## **G. Honors Tutorials**

Available in Departments which list this option in the KSU General Catalog (e.g., BIOL 496, ENGL 498, GEOG 498, MUSIC 498, KIN 498, PSYCH 490, SPCH 498, all variable credit 1-3). The tutorial generally involves research in preparation for the Honors Thesis.

## **H. Senior Honors Thesis**

Students should register for credit under the number for Senior Honors Thesis in the department of the supervising faculty member after approval of the project has been obtained. See Dean Reeck for more information.

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