

## Honors Courses: Fall 2002

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
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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	#11950	M. Donnelly	TU 9:30	EH 012
HIST 297	#14180	A. Hamscher	MWF 9:30	EH 201
MLANG 297	#18030	R. Clark	MWF 1:30	DE 222
PHILO 297	#21300	G. Draper	TU 3:30	D 106

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	#11280	Bonnie Nelson	MWF 8:30	EH 218
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## Men, Women and Society

As we begin the 21st century, it is quite fitting to look back through the centuries to explore the historical, social, and cultural impacts on relationships between the sexes as depicted in the literature of each period. We will look at various genres--plays, poetry, essays, short stories, and novels, in England and America, written by both men and women. We will begin with William Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing" (which we will see is really much ado about "something" in terms of women's subordinate position in Elizabethan society) and end with Gloria Naylor's gritty, realistic picture of the impact of ghetto life on the "Women [and men] of Brewster Place." In addition to lively class discussions on our readings, 6 critical essays of various lengths will be required. Individual conferences and group workshops will provide constructive feedback to help hone critical reading and writing skills.

Section B      #11290      Dave Smit      MWF 9:30      W 115

## Writing About Film

We will study film as a medium and the way people talk about film: through essays, reviews, and scholarly studies. The first part of the course will be an overview of the formal concepts and terminology film critics use to analyze film, what I call "shot analysis." Later, we will study the most common discourse communities that write about film and the genres these communities use.

You will write three papers and two field reports. The three papers will be an essay; a newspaper review, a magazine review, or journal criticism; and a scholarly study. The two field reports will be the results of your investigation of the communities that write reviews or journal criticism and scholarly studies.

The text will be Stephen Prince, *MOVIES AND MEANING: AN INTRO-DUCTION TO FILM*, 2nd Ed.

There will be a "lab" on Tuesday evenings, when we will watch films in their entirety together as a class.

Section C      #11300      Stacy Janicki      MWF 1:30      EH 021  
 Section D      #11310      Stacy Janicki      MWF 2:30      EH 021

In this course students will read, discuss, and write about contemporary works of non-fiction, fiction, and drama that address important issues in the collective American consciousness in the current decade. Students will read five to seven books and write at least five papers of varying lengths. At least one paper will use documented research. Current issues we may cover include the impact of September 11, the rise of the fast food industry in America, college athletics and undergraduate education, hate crimes against ethnic minorities and gays, the abuse of alcohol by college students, and escalation of violence in America's schools and schoolchildren. Possible readings (subject to change) may include *Dying to Drink*, Henry Wechsler; *Odd Girl Out*, Rachel Simmons; *Fast Food Nation*, Eric Schlosser; *Beer and Circus*, Murray Sperber; *The Larimie Project*, and others.

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

Section A #21290 George Draper TU 11:05 D 302

When one thinks philosophically about any subject matter, whether that be science or art or ethics, one is concerned in part with what it means to say that one *knows* something about that subject matter. What sort of *reasons* count as warranting the claim to know, and why these sorts of reasons *good reasons*? So one might ask, and in this class we will, what *is* good reasoning, and what is its connection to knowledge? What is a mathematical proof, and what makes it special? Can one come to *know* whether other minds exist, and if so is this the same kind of knowledge one has of one's own existence? Can one come to know in the same way about the existence of God, or of quarks or dark matter? What counts as good reasoning in science or law or academic discussions? Are some standards of good reasoning better than others, and if so why? In what ways, if any, do empirical laws of nature constrain what counts as good reasoning? We shall hope, along the way, to find both further questions, and, on occasion, useful answers.

## 3. POLSC 111: Introduction to Political Science 4 Credits

Section A #22310 Michael Suleiman T 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.

**D. Honors Seminars**

## 1. BIOCH 399: Biochemistry Honors Seminar 3 Credits

Section A #07230 Gerald Reeck W 1:30 W 123

In this class, we examine the social implications of the genetic manipulation of all living forms, from bacteria to humans. Much of the discussion will inevitably turn to ethical issues surrounding the analysis or manipulation of human genes and the human genome. The structure of the class is flexible. Success in the class depends upon the interest and motivation of the individual student, who, to a large extent, defines her or his area of special interest. Assignments ultimately boil down to reading and writing. The emphasis in the reading is on the peer-reviewed literature -- that is, on scholarly articles. A student's major project for the semester is a term paper that is written twice, the second time after getting extensive comments from several classmates and the instructor.

Fulfills science without a lab for Arts and Sciences; General Education requirements.

**E. Honors Colloquium**

## 1. DAS 450: Honors Colloquium 3 Credits

Section A #05860 Gerald Reeck W 1:30 W 123

This will be the second semester of our new format for the Honors Colloquium. The first semester (Spring 2002) is proceeding nicely. The colloquium for the fall semester will be on the early part of the twentieth century -- World War I and the years leading up to the war and following the war. The topic has been chosen with the expectation that it can be approached from quite literally any discipline represented in the college or, for that matter, in the university. For example, individual students might study the politics of the time, either nationally or internationally; developments in science; World War I poetry and other literature; economics; the development of modern art or the modernist perspective in the humanities.

Each student will set up a reading list for the semester, in consultation with appropriate faculty members (see below). During the semester, you will complete the readings and write a term paper. The paper must be submitted twice, the second time after a detailed examination of the first version by the instructor, fellow students, and possibly another faculty member. The students and instructor will meet periodically, perhaps every other week. At each meeting a student will lead the discussion, using her or his readings as a starting point for the discussion.

In class we will discuss your own readings and some shorter readings that we will do jointly, as a class. Another feature of this approach to the colloquium is that, with the approval of a student's department, the colloquium credit can be used within the student's major (and therefore not just meet a requirement in the honors program). This is a matter of negotiation between each student and his or her department. Before you start this process, please consult with Dean Reeck. Please note that this feature of the course is not a certainty -- it is not guaranteed for any student, much less for all students. It is, instead, something to be worked out between each student and their department, when possible. Presumably such an arrangement would mean that a faculty member in the department would work with the student to create an appropriate reading list for the colloquium. That faculty member would also presumably play a role in editing the term paper and assigning a final grade for the course.

**F. Honors Internships**

DAS 388 #05830 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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