

Honors Courses: Spring 2002

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

A. Honors Sections of Regular Courses

1. ENGL 125: Honors English II 3 Credits

(NOTE: ENGL 125 meets the University's requirement for a second English composition course.

	Michael		
Section A #10320	Donnelly	MWF 09:30	EH 227
Section B #10330	Michael	MWF 10:30	EH 227
	Donnelly		

Scope of the course: An honors-level course in descriptive, expository, and persuasive writing centered on texts devoted to natural history, reflections on the observation of nature, and mediations and arguments concerned with the human relation to the natural world and non-human environment. Most texts studied as examples and catalysts for student writing will be twentieth-century and American in provenance (Thoreau and Ortega being the notable exceptions).

Required texts:

Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac* (Oxford Paperback, 1980)

Henry David Thoreau, *The Viking Portable Thoreau*

David Halpern, ed., *On Nature* (North Point Press, San Francisco, 1987 (if available))

Annie Dillard, *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* (Harpers, 1974) (perhaps)

Anthology of photocopied materials including Ortega y Gasset, *Meditations on Hunting* (excerpts)

Course Requirements: Six or seven papers, expository or persuasive, ranging from 750 to 1500 words in length.

Section C #10340	Dean Hall	TU 09:30	EH 227
Section D #10350	Dean Hall	TU 11:05	EH 227

Jefferson's "Declaration of Independence" assumed ("held to be self evident") that everyone was endowed with "inalienable rights." What did he mean by that? Where did the idea come from? Do they really exist? What do we mean by "civil" rights? This course will interrogate the concept of rights and explore concepts of freedom and conscience. We will read, discuss, and respond in writing to some of the important historical texts of political freedom and discuss their applicability to civil rights issues. Basically the course will be a history of ideas approach to the concept of rights including discussions of current issues of human rights around the world.

Authors may include: Henry David Thoreau, Mary Wollstonecraft, Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Mohandas Ghandi, Martin Luther King, Jr. and others.

Texts may include: The Declaration of Independence, Civil Disobedience, Narrative of Sojourner Truth, The Communist Manifesto, The History of Woman Suffrage, The United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights. Also examination of contemporary human rights situations as they exist, occur during the course.

Many other related documents archived on the World Wide Web.

Course Requirements: Five papers ranging from 800 to 1200 words in length and one final paper of perhaps 1500 words (though many students' final papers end up much longer). Participation in discussion and workshops as well as the maturity to realize that revision is integral to improving writing are expected.

2. PHILO 215: Introduction to Philosophy 3 Credits

(NOTE: PHILO 215 meets the Humanities/Philosophy requirement in the College of Arts and Sciences

Section A #19710	Marcelo Sabates	TU 11:05	BH 108
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This course offers a broad introduction to philosophy through the philosophical study of the nature of persons. Several of the following issues will be discussed: the mind-body problem, the possibility of artificial minds, our freedom and autonomy, the nature of our values, the scope of our knowledge, our identity through time and the meaning of our lives. Some major views about the mind, such as dualism, behaviorism, psychoanalysis and computational theories will be addressed. Students will be graded on the basis of short papers (most of them of critical nature), a few short quizzes and a term paper. For the most part, we will read the

writings of contemporary philosophers (post 1930).

3. POLSC 326: Honors U.S. Politics 4 Credits

Section A #21010 James Franke TU 12:30 WA 132

This course involves an overview of U.S. national government, politics and policy. Topics addressed include the founding period, the evolution of the republic, presidential nominations and elections, public opinion, the congress, the federal courts and the federal bureaucracy. Active involvement in classroom discussion is required. There will be approximately six graded assignments including in-class exams, research papers and class presentations.

4. SOCIO 214: Introduction to Sociology 4 Credits

Section A #22310 Dana Britton TU 09:30 S 132

This course will be an overview of sociology. We will discuss a number of different areas within the field, including processes of socialization, social inequalities of gender, race, and class, and social institutions, including the family, the medical system, and religion. The class will be lecture and discussion-based. Students will be responsible for participating in (and sometimes leading) class discussions, and will also be required to write a number of short exercises and papers.

5. WOMST 105: Introduction to Women's Studies 3 Credits

(NOTE: WOMST 105 is a requirement for a secondary major in Women's Studies and for minor in Women's Studies. It fulfills a Social Science requirement or fulfills the Western Heritage requirement in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Section D #24970 Angela Hubler MWF 09:30 W 218

Introduction to Women's Studies uses an interdisciplinary approach--drawing upon knowledge from the fields of sociology, psychology, political science, history, philosophy, and literature, economics--to describe and to analyze the experience of contemporary U.S. women. We will examine the production and maintenance of inequality between men and women, as well as challenges to it. In addition to speakers, movies, essays and articles on welfare and poverty, lesbians, racism, body image, reproductive freedom, the history of women in the U.S., suffrage and feminism, violence against women, and other topics, this course will stress the way that women writers of poetry and fiction represent female experience.

Grade will be based on discussion and in-class activities, short

reaction papers, an interview with a woman at least 20 years older than you, a midterm, and a take-home essay final. This course is required for secondary majors and minors in Women's Studies.

B. Honors Seminars

1. ENGL 399: Honors Seminar in English: Language and Culture 3 Credits

(NOTE: ENGL 399 is approved for University General Education credit)

Section A #11320	Thomas Murray	U 03:30	EH 219
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The topic of this seminar is Language and Culture, and the course will focus on four questions that have commanded increasing amounts of attention over the last several years:

- (1) Should English be declared the official language of the United States?
- (2) Should the federal government continue to support bilingual programs to the tune of millions of dollars per year?
- (3) How should nonstandard dialects such as Ebonics be dealt with in the schools?
- (4) Is the American citizen's Constitutional right to free speech becoming more and more restricted because of sociocultural movements such as political correctness, book banning, and the like?

Each of these topics will consume approximately one-fourth of the semester, and no special knowledge of or expertise in linguistics is necessary for you to participate in the course.

I will be as much a participant as a leader in this course, and students will be expected to be leaders as much as participants. On the first day of class, students will be randomly divided into four groups; each group will then be randomly assigned one of the issues listed above as well as a three-week time slot. (I will try to honor requests as much as possible in all instances.) It will be each group's responsibility to thoroughly research its assigned topic--bibliography, questions, issues, legal background, etc.--and to present its findings to the class during the assigned three-week period. There are no required books for the course, but each group must assemble a packet of readings that it wants the class to do. Students are responsible for selecting the readings, and must do all the copying and distributing.

There will be no tests or quizzes in this seminar; final grades will be based on students' participation in their groups and in class

when other groups are presenting material, and on a formal written report done on some aspect of the general topic assigned to each student's group.

C. Honors Colloquium

DAS 450: Honors Colloquium: Humans and the Natural Environment 3 Credits

(NOTE: DAS 450 is approved for University General Education credit.)

Section A #05450 Gerald Reeck U 1:30 BH 114

This will be the first offering of a new form of our honors colloquium. The idea for this type of course came from a student, and we in the honors program hope that this new approach will nicely match the needs of students while maintaining the essential nature of a colloquium as it has been understood in the program.

The colloquium for this semester will be on humans and our interaction with the human environment. The topic is intentionally broad and 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.

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.

Another feature of this approach 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.

D. Honors Internships

DAS 388 #05420 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.

E. 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.

F. 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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This page was last updated March 27, 2002