

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

HONORS PROGRAM

Course Guide

Also available at:
<http://www.ksu.edu/artsci/honors/f03.pdf>

Fall 2003

**ARTS AND SCIENCES
HONORS CLASSES—FALL 2003**

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 INTRODUCTION TO HONORS PROGRAM IN ARTS AND SCIENCES (1 cr)

Section A(#05640) Gerald Reeck U 12:30 p.m. DE 113-A

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 cr)

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, #11720	M. Donnelly	TU	9:30	EH 227
HIST 297, #13880	B. Maner	MWF	9:30	EH 201
MLANG 297, #17700	C. Dehon	MWF	1:30	EH 123
PHILO 297, #21030	J. Hamilton	MWF	9:30	D 302

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

C. HONORS SECTIONS OF REGULAR COURSES

1. ENGL 110 HONORS ENGLISH I (3 cr)

<u>Section A(#11130)</u>	Dean Hall	MWF 10:30	EH 228
<u>Section B(#11140)</u>	Dean Hall	MWF 11:30	EH 228

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 rights 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 issues of political freedom and discuss their applicability to civil rights issues. The course will include a brief history of the concept of rights including discussions of current issues of human rights around the world and in the United States. We will spend some time looking at current US foreign and domestic policies in the light of rights issues. Many other related documents archived on the WorldWideWeb. and contemporary discussions of related issues in periodicals such as the Washington Post and NY Times. Emphases on critical reading and thinking, analysis and argument, persuasion, and clear prose.

Course Requirements: Four 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.

<u>Section C(#11150)</u>	Ann Warren	MWF 1:30	DE 215
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During the first half of the semester, we will read and study examples of good contemporary essay writing. Students will respond in writing to the ideas in these essays, with an emphasis on perfecting their own writing for the university and life after that. During the second half of the semester, we will study two books that focus on the idea of a homeland as central to how a person sees himself or herself. These books, Homer's <Odyssey> and the novel <Cold Mountain> by Charles Frazier, are important insights into man's relationship to his homeland and observations of the changes that war brings to a land and its people.

Students will be expected to use the class web bulletin board to post a good deal of their written work for other students in the class.

<u>Section D(#11160)</u>	Mosher, Robin	TU	11:05	DE 215
<u>Section E(#11170)</u>	Mosher, Robin	TU	2:05	EH 219

Lively, productive discussions are encouraged in this reading, film and writing class that will focus on the human search for meaningfulness. Readings will include short works by such authors as Plato, Shelley, Clarke, Woolf, Welty, Fierstein, McIntyre, etc. as well as Pullman's novel, *The Amber Spyglass*. We will also study several contemporary films (tba). Five writing assignments of varying lengths will grow out of the reading/film/discussion materials. The writing process will be emphasized as we practice various invention, workshopping, and revision techniques to help you hone your critical writing skills. There will be a "lab" on several Tuesday evenings, when we will watch films in their entirety together as a class.

2. PHILO 215 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (3 cr)

<u>Section A (#21020)</u>	Douglas Patterson	TU	9:30	D 302
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This course will be an introduction to philosophy by way of the history of philosophy. We will read six to eight classic works more or less in their entirety. Texts may include Plato's Republic, Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics, Descartes's Meditations, Kant's Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals, Berkeley's Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous, Mill's Utilitarianism, and Nietzsche's On The Genealogy of Morals. The primary focus will be on understanding how philosophy gets done by looking in depth at the work of major figures. There will be 3 or so medium-length papers and an exam or two, and there may be a schedule of in-class presentations.

3. POLSC 111 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE (4 cr)

<u>Section A (#22060)</u>	Michael Suleiman	T	2:30	W 218
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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. ENGL 399 ENGLISH HONORS SEMINAR (3 cr)

Section A (#23060) Donald Hedrick MWF 12:30 DE 224
LAB M 7:00 pm EH 021

“Weird Shakespeare”

The current explosion of interest in Shakespeare through films and adaptations, for audiences from teen to highbrow, reveals how every era makes Shakespeare anew. Using various approaches from cultural studies and theory, we will study selected works of Shakespeare for appreciation and understanding. In addition to lesser known “weird” plays (i.e., the “slasher tragedy” *Titus Andronicus*) and “weird” or radical elements within the plays (interpretive puzzles), we will explore such adaptations of Shakespeare’s works, considering how his supposed “greatness” inspires radical imagination and performance, including the semester’s McCain performance of *Othello*.

There will be a regular, required Monday evening lab for film showings, exercises, short reports or papers, two or three exams, plus an opportunity for performance or creative work.

E. HONORS COLLOQUIUM

1. DAS 450 THE MIDDLE EAST: CULTURES AND POLITICS (3 cr)

Section A (#05790) Gerald Reeck W 1:30-4:10 W 115

An honors colloquium is a unique type of class. In a given semester, we define a broad subject area. Students then research within that subject, both broadly and very specifically. Their focused inquiries give rise to a major term paper, written in two versions. This research is most typically done from the perspective of each student’s major. Often, students turn to faculty members within their departments for help in defining their reading lists and sources for their research. The class comes close, then, to being an independent reading and research class for each student. But what we’ve learned over the past three semesters is that the class can cohere, that we can learn from each other. Actually we’ve learned that it’s a truly exciting thing to learn from others’ diverse insights and explorations, that, ultimately, most everything is inter-related.

The subject, then, for the fall semester is the cultures and politics of the Middle East. As always in this form of the colloquium, each student will choose a particular topic within this hugely broad subject. This can be in any time period and culture, from ancient Mesopotamia to the present. It can be from the

perspective of any major in the college. We will certainly work together a good deal in this class and will call on expertise, as available, from outside the class.

For students who want credit in their majors, arrangements must be made within their departments. As director of the honors program, I can help with this, but ultimately it's up to each department to certify such an arrangement.

F. HONORS INTERNSHIP

1. DAS 388 HONORS INTERNSHIP (V cr)

Section A (#05760) Gerald Reeck By Appt.

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.