

## Fall 2021 Experimental and Special Topics Course Descriptions

### **CHEM 194 – 01 Practical Chemistry**

**3 credit hours**

Practical Chemistry is an introductory level course designed for students not majoring in the sciences. One of the main goals of the course is to give students an appreciation of the molecular world and how chemistry is involved in daily life. Another goal is to assist students in understanding the major scientific, environmental and technological issues facing our society today so that as educated citizens, they can make educated decision now and later in life in topical areas that may overlap with the sciences.

### **CYBR 350 – 01 Top: Pen Testing**

**3 credit hours**

The focus of this class will be the fundamentals of penetration testing and ethical hacking. Included in this class will be information gathering, target discovery, vulnerability mapping and social engineering. A variety of penetration testing tools will be used. Strategies for reporting of results will also be covered.

### **HIST 394 – 01 Atlantic World**

**3 credit hours**

The Atlantic World is one of the most vibrant fields of early modern scholarship, including the uncovering of cultural negotiation and identity, imperial domination, human migrations of four continents, labor and exchange system, the exploitation of new commodities such as sugar and coffee, and the mixing of peoples on an unprecedented level. As a class, we will explore these topics starting with the arrival of the Black Death in Europe in the mid-fourteenth century and ending with the French Revolution at the end of the eighteenth century.

### **PHIL 194 01 – Knowledge, Self, Reality**

**3 credit hours**

This is a philosophy course taught on the introductory level, exploring philosophical ideas about knowledge, reality, what a self is, and what a self does. The philosophical materials include classic texts and ideas, as well as videos and short stories. The main topics of the course will be the following: The distinction of appearance and reality, the question of what we can know; the nature of religious experience, miracles, and the existence of God; the problems of evil and suffering; the meaning of self-realization and the paths to it; the pursuit of simplicity in life; the question of whether free will exists; the issue of making responsible choices in life; the issue of whether mind exists and what it is.

### **PHIL 394-01 Past-Modern Wisdom: Philosophy from Now On**

**3 credit hours**

This course covers post-Kantian and post-Hegelian Continental Philosophy after the Late Modern period, through to the beginning of the 21st century. Focal points include: (a) George Bataille's heterology, built on a fusion of logic and anthropology, (b) the alt-globalism of Alphonso Lingis—a fusion of phenomenology and non-Western otherness, (c) the diversity-inclusiveness of 20th century Radical French Feminism, and (d) the strategy of deconstruction from Jacques Derrida, broadly applicable to both critical reading and moral deliberation. The issues and figures covered in this class struggle overtly against many complexities generated in the prior philosophical epoch. We also shall pay attention to how they struggle with the world-history and near-apocalyptic crises of their own 20th and 21st centuries. Participation in the class is recommended only for students with some background in the history of philosophy and/or related areas of study in humanities and/or social sciences. Prerequisite: One 200-level course in philosophy or higher, or permission of instructor.

### **PSYC 601-99 Top: Dark Side of Human Behavior: From Bad to Evil**

**3 credit hours**

An in-depth examination of the psychological research and theories that attempt to understand the causes of human behavior that most cultures have labeled as being bad to outright evil (e.g. gossip, lies, cheating, torture, genocide, serial killing). Emphasis is placed on a bio-psycho-social approach to both integrating and understanding the darker side of human behavior.

**SOCI 394 – 01 Policy Debate****3 credit hours**

Policies are rules or plans implemented by a governing body that shape society's behavior and individual decision making. From the absentee policy on a course syllabus, to a company's hiring policy, to U.S. domestic and international policy, these policies are often aimed minimize some harm. Though we have policies, we still have many societal harms including food insecurity, expensive healthcare, and global climate change. In this course, we will begin by critically thinking about the big problems in our society and the policies behind them. We will move onto developing our argumentation skills with the use of sound reasoning and quality evidence. In the last third of the course, students will argue and debate the significance of particular problems and the best solutions to remedy them.

**SPTM 294 – 01 Maximizing Mental Fitness****3 credit hours**

For most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, modern science and medicine have assumed “how we feel” to be the domain exclusively of the brain and our conscious thoughts. Emerging science, particularly around the microbiome and the gut-brain-heart axis, suggest that our emotions, mood state, and overall mental wellness are not “just” in our brains, but also in our gut, in our heart, and in other body domains (e.g. microbiome, HPA axis, immune system, endocannabinoid system, etc) that send signals to the brain in our heads and help determine how we feel and how we perform.

**THEA 314 – 01 Adv. Topics: Dialects****3 credit hours**

This advanced level acting course provides an in-depth examination and practical studio-style exploration of character dialects with intensive focus on vocal analysis and the application of IPA vowels. Students will engage in a range of performance activities to develop vocal acting skills and create a personal methodology for crafting a variety of character dialects and creating fully realized and specific characters on stage.