

Fall 2025 Experimental & Special Topics Course Descriptions

EDUC 494-99 – Clinical Teaching Practicum – Instructor, Tanya Judd 3 credit hours

Twelve-week supervised teaching in classroom setting in the licensure band/content are under the guidance of a licensed teacher or administrator and college supervisor. Online and face to face observations and meetings with college supervisor for the purpose of feedback and assessment. Seminar discussion with teacher candidates and course instructor scheduled weekly throughout the experience.

MUSC 194-01 – Rock Band Ensemble – Instructor, Eli Chambers 1 credit hour

Students will use ensemble performance, independent practice/research, and critical listening as applied studies of Rock music, and of how this music is both a product of and influence upon interdisciplinary artistic media and intersectional cultural understanding.

PHIL 394-01 – Postmodern Wisdom – Instructor, Ken Itzkowitz 3 credit hours

This course covers Continental Philosophy of the 20th and 21st centuries, presented within the relevant historical and philosophical frameworks. Its main focal points will be as follows: (a) the *heterology* of Georges Bataille--a fusion of logic and anthropology, (b) the *alt-globalism* of Alphonso Lingis--a fusion of phenomenology and non-Western global *alterity*, and (c) the *deconstructive* methodology of Jacques Derrida, based largely on the recent critical understanding of Michael Naas. In general, the issues and figures covered in this class are framed by complexities generated from previous philosophical epochs, but they are especially motivated by the crises of our own century and the kinds of Wisdom they require. Prerequisite: One 200-level course in philosophy or higher, or permission of instructor.

SMGT 294-01 – Intro to Esports – Instructor, Rick Smith 3 credit hours

This course is designed to give a general overview of the rapidly growing segment of sports known as esports. Topics covered in this course include: types of organizations (youth, community, intercollegiate, social, professional, etc.), esports globally, events, venues, legal considerations, and social/societal challenges and stereotypes.

COMM 380-01 – Top: Media & Health – Instructor, Lori Smith 3 credit hours

This upper-level course is designed for undergraduate students to engage in meaningful dialogue surrounding media & health communication. Often times, media representation drastically skews the perception and reality surrounding health. In this course, we will critically investigate the complex relationship between communication, health, and media. We will also explore intersections of gender, sexuality, class, ethnicity, race, and language within the media as they relate to health. Moreover, we will explore the role media and communication have within the context of health. Readings, discussions, and assignments are designed to stimulate critical thinking related to media and health within society.

COMM 380-02 – Top: Gender & Communication – Instructor, Dawn Carusi 3 credit hours

In this course we will focus on the scholarship in the area of gender and communication in order to enhance understanding and appreciation of the complex ways in which communication, gender, and culture interact to affect society and our personal lives. Additionally, this course strives to help students become more effective communicators and critical consumers through an enhanced understanding of how gender impacts our lives.

ENGL 362-01 – Top: Gothic Women Writers – Instructor Heather Sowards 3 credit hours

In this course, we will examine the foundational women writers for the Gothic genre. We'll start in the 18th century and look at how these pioneering women writers influenced generations of Gothic writers to come. We'll consider ways in which these writers formulated, informed, and challenged the literary form. Here are a few texts we'll cover: Selections by Mary Shelley, Anne Radcliffe, Mary Wollstonecraft, Jane Austen, and Frances Burney to name a few.