

The following descriptions are for topics courses that are being offered through the Honors College in the Spring 2016. All other descriptions are listed in the Undergraduate Catalog.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Academic Writing

**GSW 1120H (3) 11:30am-12:15 TR; Carlton**

**Course # 11437**

#### “Freedom of Speech”

This honors section of GSW 1120 will focus on the theme of “Freedom of Speech.” The class will focus on student’s rights to freedom of speech, both at the high school and university levels. The students will look at landmark Supreme Court Cases that have shaped and defined the limits of students’ free speech rights, cases such as *Tinker vs. Des Moines* and *Morse vs. Frederick*. The class will look at current free speech cases that are coming before the courts with regard to students’ rights. Explore the topic of free speech in a number of ways including academic freedom, the banning and censorship of books and movies, internet censorship, police surveillance and terrorists’ threat to free speech.

### Academic Writing

**GSW 1120H (3) 1:00-2:15 TR; Jones**

**Course # 15872**

#### “The Graphic Novel”

This honors section of GSW 1120 will focus on academic argumentative writing, with particular attention on synthesized use of sources. The course is designed to familiarize students with reading, critiquing, and utilizing academic sources in their own writing process, and to foster a sense of the ongoing “conversation of ideas” that their essays are meant to be engaging. The essays written for this class will focus around the emergent literary form of the graphic novel. The graphic genre has recently been recognized for its diversity, complexity, and uniqueness.

## SPECIAL HONORS COLLEGE SEMINARS

### Twice Upon a Fairy Tale: Adaptations of Hansel and Gretel

**HNRS 3000, section 1001, Thursday 9:30am-11:15am (2); Diehl**

**Course # 15162**

Over the past three-plus centuries, fairy tales have occupied an important (arguably, central) place within Western Literary history and culture in large part due to the production of a wealth of literary, cinematic, stage, and television adaptations of these classic narratives. In addition to offering children entertaining stories to fuel their imagination, fairy tales also “insinuate themselves” into the “thoughts and conversations” of adults, becoming useful vehicles through which to express the “most fervent desires and deepest hopes” (as well as strongest fears) of a culture at any given moment. From “Snow White” to “Cinderella” to “Rapunzel” and “Beauty and the Beast,” classic fairy tales of all types and varieties have served as the jumping off point for many a creative artist to stage what literary critic Adrienne Rich once termed a “radical critique of literature [and culture].” (This is, according to Rich, one of the central preoccupations of an adaptation.) This course will take as a point of departure Rich’s idea that adaptations are first and foremost a site at which to stage a radical critique of both literature and culture. The topical focus of this seminar will be fairly evenly divided between an examination of the history and evolution of fairy tale genre and a consideration of the politics and poetics of adaptation. For both topics, “Hansel and Gretel” and a representative selection of its adaptations will serve as a kind of case study from which to build and with which to frame our ongoing discussions of these topics.

### From Bones to Bread. The Material Science of Everyday Stuff

**HNRS 4000, section 1001, Tuesday 10:00-10:50am (1); Ostrowski**

**Course # 11694**

Application of principles from chemistry to materials students encounter every day. Focuses on understanding interactions in biomaterials, including tissues and food. Students will review basic biochemistry, and learn about material mechanics, food science, methods of measurement of material properties, and current frontiers in research. Lecture and some hands-on-lab experiences to supplement lecture. Different guest speakers to discuss how material mechanics are relevant to current research. **Prerequisite requirements:** CHEM 3410, Organic Chemistry 1 and BIOL 2050, General Concepts in Biology or CHEM 4450, Biochemistry 1.

**The Leadership Seminar****HNRS 3000, section 1005, Tuesday 9:30-11:15am (2); Lipnicki****Course # 16997**

This course explores leadership through the lens of critical thinking. In the first portion of the course, students will examine their own leadership at a deeper level. By examining their personal values, leadership style, and individual strengths and weaknesses, students will gain a more complete understanding of self and how this comes into play when interacting with others. In the second portion of the course, students will turn their attention to the leaders around them. Students will be challenged to evaluate questions around the topics of “what is leadership” and “what does it mean to be a leader”. In the final portion of the course, student will integrate their personal exploration and ideas on positive leadership to explore the types of leaders they hope to become.

**Marx: So Much More than an Economist****HNRS 3000, Section 1003, Tuesday 6:00pm-7:45pm (2); Browne****Course # 16995**

The core of the American educational process systematically ignores Karl Marx. Yet, ironically, Marxism heavily influences the work of many American intellectuals in a wide range of fields, even though learners in universities could easily be unaware of those influences. On a more popular level of thinking, the ideas of Marx provide a portrait of what American values supposedly oppose.

This course hopes to provide a complex, multi-disciplinary introduction to the richness of Marxist ideas—their assumptions, language, insights and errors. It does so by stimulating students to think of Marx as economist, philosopher, humanist, religious thinker (shock!), sociologist, and psychologist.

**Peaceful Solutions to Human Conflicts****HNRS 3000, section 1004, Tuesday 8:00pm-8:50pm(1); Browne****Course # 16996**

Humans disagree about many things. Disagreements are an unfortunate, but inevitable, part of our existence. But how we respond to disagreements is varied. Some people rush to courts where your fate is thrown into the hands of people who do not know you. Courts are expensive places to resolve arguments and create huge psychological burdens on those who take that approach. Others fight, as history regularly documents. They yell, maim and often kill those with whom they disagree. Yet another group pouts and grumbles as they decide they would rather lose in a disagreement than run the risk of more aggressive approaches to representing their interests. The study of negotiation and mediation provides skills and attitudes for enabling humans to discover and use a more gentle and less warlike method for resolving problems of all kinds---international, business-consumer, employer-worker, domestic disputes, political debates, and any other kind of stressful conflict. This course does so much more than introduce learners to these skills. The course is very much hands on. The basic operation of the classroom is mock mediations where students learn presentation skills and communication-calming skills through a participatory process followed by developmental critique by the instructor and other students. The objective is a more peaceful and compassionate experience when you encounter disputes in your life.