Spring 2019 Graduate Courses of Interest

The Graduate College has been asked by the faculty to provide extra marketing for several courses for Spring 2019. Please check with your graduate coordinator to determine how these classes fit into your degree requirements. Contact the instructor and/or department for more information about the course.


Instructor: Dr. Michael Ellison

In this course we will explore various forms of Theatre for Social Change--from Augusto Boal’s Forum Theatre to Playback Theatre to Immersive Theatre to Live Action Role Play (LARPing) to Devised Theatre--and a variety of tools they employ in order to give body and voice to important social issues. As the practical application of these tools in real settings is a vital aspect of this type of theatre, there will be a service learning component to the course. No theatrical experience is necessary – just a passion for social change. The class will meet Fridays 2:30-5:20, using Wolfe Center 201 as a home base. If you have any questions, contact Dr. Michael Ellison 419-372-0472 or at ellison@bgsu.edu.

POPC 5860 /ACS 5860: Applied Popular Culture: Ideas to Objects

Instructors: Dr. Marilyn Motz, Professor Emeritus, Department of Popular Culture and Shawn Sowers, Product Designer currently working with IKEA Sweden

This course will explore the intersection between popular culture and product design, with a focus on furniture and other objects used in homes. We will look at studies by historians, anthropologists and sociologists who examine how gender, race, class, identity, personal relationships and memory shape and are shaped by these objects we often take for granted in our everyday lives.

Using the Design Thinking process developed by industrial designers to encourage innovation, we will draw on these insights, along with our own experiences and observation, to envision ways to make home environments more relevant to current lifestyles and then develop these ideas into workable designs for practical objects. Because
they emphasize creative and collaborative problem solving, these methods are currently applied in many business, public sector, education and NGO settings.

The course will be co-taught by Marilyn Motz, emeritus faculty in Popular Culture, and Shawn Sowers, who has worked as a product designer for Lenovo, Bose, Sauder and IKEA and will use media technology to participate from Sweden, where he currently lives and works.

**POLS 6120: Public Administration Ethics**

Instructor: Dr. Albert Dzur

Public Administration Ethics is a seminar involving research and analysis of ethical questions confronted by professionals in public service including selected issues in democratic governance, professional responsibility, and legal liability. It would be of interest to any student interested in public service.

**POLS 5550: Politics of Nationalism, Multiculturalism and Citizenship**

Instructor: Dr. Scott Piroth

This class will cover theories of nationalism and national identity; cases of nationalism in advanced industrial democracies; multiculturalism policies; citizenship regimes; integrating immigrants in democratic societies.

**POLS 5310: Politics, Policy, and Poverty**

Instructor: Dr. Justin Rex

This course examines political and public policy debates about the problem of poverty in the US. The course begins with ethnographic accounts of living in poverty and a poverty simulation. Students then read leading social and political science explanations for what causes poverty, including family, culture, social structure, and political power. Finally, students will read and debate a variety of public policy solutions to poverty, including welfare reform, income transfers, education, and reducing income inequality. Throughout the course, students will learn and practice tactics of political advocacy to promote a poverty solution of their choice. Ultimately, students will leave this course with the knowledge and skills to be an informed, active, and engaged citizen about policy issues they care about.
**MC7770: Topics in Advanced Social Scientific Research Methods**

Instructor: Yanqin Lu

This course covers quantitative methods (e.g., content analysis, experiment, survey, and social network analysis) used in social scientific research. Readings and examples will be primarily drawn from the literature of media audiences and processes. The theoretical underpinnings of each method will be introduced. Students will collaborate to work on their own research projects to practice the application of these methods.

Prior credit in MC 6300 and one graduate level statistics course (e.g., MC7020, EDFI6410, SOC6100, PSYC6670) or equivalent is recommended for enrollment. Students from other related disciplines are more than welcome to contact the instructor at ylu@bgsu.edu to discuss their qualifications.

**HIST 6800: Seminar in History - 1914-1945: Europe’s Thirty Years War of the 20th Century**

Instructor: Douglas Forsyth

Winston Churchill was perhaps the first writer to refer to the era of the two world wars as a ‘thirty years war of the 20th century.’ The course explores the era of the two world wars using an analytical prism of four subsystems: 1) great power relations and alliances, 2) colonization and decolonization, 3) trade and the international monetary system, and 4) social relations between the classes in the industrialized world. The course will also look at the nature of the settlement achieved after 1945 in all four areas. It will explore the robustness of this settlement through the present day and may consider alternative explanatory frameworks for contemporary European history.

**HIST 6320: Topics in World History: The Enlightenment [ONLINE]**

Instructor: Kara Barr

Examines European intellectual and cultural currents of the 17th and 18th centuries, focusing on radical shifts in thinking about religion and science in France, Britain, and beyond. In addition to exploring the thought of well-known philosophes like Voltaire and Jean-Jacques Rousseau, it will examine the cultural impact of enlightened thought, from public spectacles of science to shifting literary tastes.
HIST 6820: Problems in History: The World War II Experience

Instructor: Walter Grunden

Beyond a general examination of the root causes, conduct, and consequences of the Second World War, this course offers an in-depth investigation of the war from a variety of perspectives as recorded in memoirs, oral histories, biographies, film, and historical monographs. The course will focus specifically on problematizing the study and teaching of the following topics: the combat experience in Europe and the Pacific; developments on the Home Front including mobilization, industrial production, social change, and the Japanese-American experience; the role of science and technology in prosecuting and ending the war; controversies engendered in commemorating and memorializing the war; the war in popular culture and film; and contemporary issues in teaching the war at the secondary-school and university levels.

HMSL 6390: Exercise Psychology: Research and Practice

Instructor: Bonnie Berger

This course includes the exciting exploration of current concepts and research in exercise psychology. Content areas include: 1) Psychological changes associated with physical activity: subjective well-being, flow, mood alteration, and stress management; 2) Psychological influences on exercise initiation and adherence, exercise addiction, decreasing sedentarism, and the prevention and treatment of exercise and sport injury. There is an emphasis on real world application of research findings to a variety of exercise and sport settings, such as universities and schools, fitness centers, and senior living facilities.

Course goals are to provide students with opportunities to extend their knowledge in exercise psychology. This knowledge base is of value for exercise and sport professionals in kinesiology, psychology, gerontology, sport administration, athletic training, and for all individuals who wish to become knowledgeable about exercise psychology. The instructor frames experiences for students to connect with academic organizations in exercise and sport psychology and to develop professional written and oral communication skills within the area of exercise psychology.

HIED 7340: College and University Teaching

Instructor: Maureen Wilson

This course will include the study of teaching philosophy, methods, and techniques; development of course content and instructional aids; evaluation of student performance; and faculty careers in higher education.
FCS 5800: Queer Families & Communities

Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth Holman

In this special topics course, students will gain knowledge about the empirical research conducted with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer-identified (LGBTQ+) populations to better support sexual and gender minority individuals and their families. At the end of the semester, students will be able to identify situations that may be uniquely challenging to LGBTQ+ individuals and queer families across the life course, on both the micro and macro levels, and demonstrate an ability to advocate on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community. Although the course will be framed through the lens of human development and family studies, this course is open to all majors and minors. No prerequisites are required. For more questions about the course, please contact Dr. Holman at eholman@bgsu.edu.

ENG 7800: Grant Writing for Research & Program Development

Instructor: Dr. Neil Baird

Challenging the definition of genre as the categorization of text types, Carolyn R. Miller (“Genre as Social Action,” 1984) defined genres as typified rhetorical ways of responding to recurring situations, and this social definition of genre has had a profound impact on how we understand the work of genres. In this course, we’ll seek to understand the genre of grants from a rhetorical perspective, teaching doctoral students how to effectively write grants supporting their research agendas and communities they may engage in the future. Open to doctoral students; Open to master’s students with instructor approval.

EDFI 7010: Comparative Higher Education

Instructor: Christopher Frey

An international, cross-cultural examination and analysis of educational issues and reforms in higher education.

Course Topics:
Part I: Higher Education Globally
1. Development of higher education outside of the West;
2. International Comparisons of Higher Education;
3. Neo-Institutionalism (the confluence of practices in higher education globally)
4. College Student Engagement
5. Policy Borrowing and Lending
6. Globalization and Internationalization of HIED
7. Disparities and Access
8. Student Activism
Part II: Internationalization and US campuses
9. International Student Flows
10. International Student Services
11. Exchange Programs, Grants and Study Abroad
12. Campus Internationalization

Students will complete a research paper or appropriate relevant project on a topic related to the course. Please email cjfrey@bgsu.edu with any questions. Thank you!

ARTS 4010/ARTS4010H/ART 5860: Forms of Resistance: Performances of Dissent
Instructor: Leigh-Ann Pahapill

This course explores the aesthetics of politicized critical practice, both in theory and practice. We will critically examine a fundamental assumption at stake in a mode of contemporary art practice called Social Practice; that is, its capacity to produce, rather than to merely represent, social change. Students will compare the work of contemporary artists engaged in practices that bridge Social Practice and Institutional Critique to explore ways to embody critique in this community engaged studio seminar. Fieldwork will draw together the BGSU and BG communities in a collaborative examination of the aesthetics employed in pursuit of social justice leading to the design of proposals/responses that iteratively take up the economic, the political, and the ideological complexities of the late capitalist social formation.

Email Leigh-Ann Pahapill at pahapil@bgsu.edu with any questions and/or for more information.