GENERAL INFORMATION

Course Number and Title:

HU 3900   Inquiry Seminar
HU 3910   Practicum in Humanities and Arts

For ALL Seminars and Practicums:

- Limit 12 students
- One 2-hour meeting/week
- Instructor will check for the five required HUA courses
- Special approval registration only, by instructor signature on Course Change form; no online registration

For the weekly meeting times, check the Registrar’s Course Schedule: http://www.wpi.edu/Admin/Registrar/Rainbow/

For more information, see the Humanities and Arts website: http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/Depts/HUA/Requirements/index.html

Or speak to a department member.
A Term 2007

HU 3900-A01 INQUIRY SEMINAR: HISTORY OF SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY (CRN 16186)
Clark, Constance
This Inquiry Seminar in the History of Science and Technology will examine portrayals of scientists, engineers and inventors in mass and popular culture, as well as some examples of several inventors' own presentations of themselves and their work in memoirs, popularizations, and books and articles intended for the public. We will focus predominantly on primary source materials, with some initial attention to examples of the methods of analysis historians have devoted to such material. This will be a writing-intensive course, including a "workshop" setting in which students will learn to help each other improve their writing and revising skills.

HU 3900-A02 INQUIRY SEMINAR: EUROPEAN/GLOBAL HISTORY (CRN 16187)
Hansen, Peter H.
This Inquiry Seminar in History will begin with discussion of cultural studies of sport. Students will research and write about a topic in the history of sports. This seminar is appropriate for students with a background in U.S., European, or world history.

B Term 2007

HU 3900-B01 INQUIRY SEMINAR: EUROPEAN HISTORY (CRN 16188)
Addison, W. A. Bland
This Inquiry Seminar in History will focus upon economic, political, and cultural aspects of social struggle during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in Europe. Students will prepare an analytical research paper on an appropriate topic.

HU 3900-B02 INQUIRY SEMINAR: AMERICAN LITERATURE (CRN 16189)
Ljungquist, Kent P.
There is a respected tradition in American literature—from Thoreau to Cather, Wharton, Frost, Steinbeck, Austin, and Faulkner—of writers who have endowed their work with a strong sense of place. This Inquiry Seminar in American Literature will begin by exploring short narratives or stories that reflect the use of local, regional, and cosmopolitan settings. After discussion of "sense of place" in American literary history, students, in consultation with the instructor and other seminar participants, will develop substantial essays on topics of their choice.

HU 3900-B03 INQUIRY SEMINAR: PHILOSOPHY/ETHICS OF WAR (CRN 16190)
Sanbonmatsu, John
This Inquiry Seminar in Philosophy will look at the politics and ethics of war. What makes war just? Or is "just war" a contradiction in terms? Students will read several texts together while researching and writing an original paper of their own on some aspect of war. We will consider such issues as masculinity and sexuality, justifications for political violence, pacifist critiques, atrocity, and the nature of war.
B Term 2007 (continued)

HU 3900-B04 INQUIRY SEMINAR: PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION (CRN 16191)
Smith, Ruth L.
This Inquiry Seminar in Philosophy and Religion will focus on individually chosen topics developed in reflective discussion of the impact of your reading, the work of assumptions, the power of the unexpected question, the process of critical argument, the meaning and feeling of understanding something.

HU 3900-B05 INQUIRY SEMINAR: TECHNOLOGY IN THE WORLD (CRN 16424)
Spanagel, David I.
This Inquiry Seminar in the History of Technology will examine some instance or instances from global history, focusing on a specific society/technology domain or relationship. Weekly meetings will be devoted to uncovering and understanding the varying perspectives of participants and historians about a key aspect of technology's historical impact on the world, that aspect to be chosen by consensus among the seminar participants. Students will write brief individual papers analyzing contemporary source materials; will collaborate in small groups in the composition of more substantial historical research articles; and will design and/or participate in a culminating historical simulation activity. The final grade will depend heavily on engagement in all aspects of the seminar experience.

HU 3910-B01 PRACTICUM IN HUMANITIES AND ARTS: DRAMA/THEATRE PERFORMANCE (CRN 16192)
Vick, Susan
This Inquiry Practicum in Drama/Theatre Performances will involve participants in the rehearsal and staging of the annual Humanities and Arts, Drama/ Theatre, and Masque collaborative production. This practicum is part of the academic theatre program. The Drama/Theatre professors work together every year to stage a play chosen for its high regard from world dramatic literature. The production opens in the fourth week of the term, with the following three weeks devoted to assembling a project portfolio which documents the results of the study. Students may enroll in this practicum for acting, directing, dramaturgy, or other performance areas with the approval of the professor.

HU 3910-B02 PRACTICUM IN HUMANITIES AND ARTS: TECHNICAL THEATRE (CRN 16198)
Sands, Jessica T.
This Inquiry Practicum in Technical Theatre will involve participants in the rehearsal and staging of the annual Humanities and Arts, Drama/ Theatre, and Masque collaborative production. This practicum is part of the academic theatre program. The Drama/Theatre professors work together every year to stage a play chosen for its high regard from world dramatic literature. The production opens in the fourth week of the term, with the following three weeks devoted to assembling a project portfolio which documents the results of the study. Students may enroll in this practicum for design, technology, stage management, or other production areas with the approval of the professor.

C Term 2008

HU 3900-C01 INQUIRY SEMINAR: LITERATURE (CRN 25519)
Nikitina, Svetlana
This Inquiry Seminar in Literature will focus on the analysis of modern authors whose writings touch upon moral issues or environmental concerns or contain formal innovations. The seminar has a broad geographical reach and welcomes students interested in European (English, French and Russian) as well as in American and Asian authors. Students are also encouraged to consider creative writing projects in poetry or prose as well as projects that involve the use or analysis of digital media and film.
C Term 2008 (continued)

HU 3900-C02  INQUIRY SEMINAR: JAZZ HISTORY (CRN 25520)
Falco, Richard G.
This Inquiry Seminar in Jazz Music History will assemble a team of students to conduct field research by visiting the homes of New England based jazz artists and their families. Data collected in the field will include aural history interviews, old photographs, recordings, print media, and radio and television shows. Materials will be processed according to specific guidelines and added to an online permanent collection at jazzhistorydatabase.com.

HU 3900-C03  INQUIRY SEMINAR: EUROPEAN/GLOBAL HISTORY (CRN 25521)
Hansen, Peter H.
This Inquiry Seminar in History will begin with discussion of comparisons of the British and American empires. Students will research and write on a topic related to empire in history. This seminar is appropriate for students with a background in U.S., European, or world history.

HU 3900-C04  INQUIRY SEMINAR: AMERICAN LITERATURE (CRN 25522)
Mott, Wesley T.
This Inquiry Seminar in Literature is also appropriate for students interested in American Studies (e.g., courses in history and/or philosophy/religion as well as American literature). Louisa May Alcott's "Transcendental Wild Oats" and selections from Henry D. Thoreau's Walden will provide a base for exploring American writers' visions of the good life and the ideal society. Students will write papers on such topics as sources of this recurring theme in American culture, tensions between individual and communal values, and conflicts between perfectionism and pragmatism. Students will be encouraged to apply this context to works they have previously read and to contemporary cases.

D Term 2008

HU 3900-D01  INQUIRY SEMINAR: WORLD HISTORY (CRN 25526)
Addison, W. A. Bland
This Inquiry Seminar in History will focus upon the historical roots of contemporary world conflicts arising from disparities in global wealth and/or hostilities over ethno-cultural differences. Students will prepare an analytical research paper on an appropriate topic.

HU 3900-D02  INQUIRY SEMINAR: EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY (CRN 25527)
Bullock, Steven C.
This Inquiry Seminar in History focuses on Mason Locke Weems's Life of George Washington, the most popular early biography of America's first president and the book that introduced the story of the young Washington chopping down the cherry tree. Students will write papers on both the volume itself and on the larger Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary worlds in which it was written. They will also consider more broadly how to think, discuss, and write about the past.

HU 3900-D03  INQUIRY SEMINAR: HISTORY OF SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY (CRN 25528)
Clark, Constance
This Inquiry Seminar in the History of Science and Technology will explore the history of scientific and technical illustration and of visual images of scientific and technological theories, ideas and themes in American popular and mass culture since the early nineteenth century. We will examine some representative scholars' approaches to these issues, and explore a variety of primary sources, discussing ways in which historians can learn from these sources. Students will write their own analyses of carefully focused examples of the visual culture of science, popular images of scientific ideas, or scientific illustration.
D Term 2008 (continued)

HU 3900-D04 INQUIRY SEMINAR: MEDIEVAL/RENAISSANCE MUSIC NOTATION (CRN 25529)
Delorey, John F.
This Inquiry Seminar in Music History and Theory will explore two notation systems: Modal Rhythmic notation as practiced during the 12th and 13th century at Chartres Cathedral, France, and Renaissance Mensural notation from England. The students will explore the events that may have led to the development of both notation systems, transcribe music into modern notation from facsimiles, and prepare modern scores from facsimiles of Renaissance part books.

HU 3900-D05 INQUIRY SEMINAR: PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION (CRN 25530)
Eddy, Bethel L.
An Inquiry Seminar in Philosophy and Religion. [Professor Eddy will begin teaching at WPI in A07. Contact her for further information.]

HU 3900-D06 INQUIRY SEMINAR: ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY (CRN 25543)
Spanagel, David I.
This Inquiry Seminar in History will draw upon students' interests in the period from (roughly) 1850 to the present in U.S. and global history. Seminar meetings will be devoted to uncovering and understanding the varying perspectives of participants in a key environmental issue, natural resource problem, or land-use decision from the past, the specific topic or theme to be chosen by consensus among the seminar participants. Students will write brief individual papers analyzing contemporary source materials; will collaborate in small groups in the composition of more substantial historical research articles; and will design and/or participate in a culminating historical simulation activity. The final grade will depend heavily on engagement in all aspects of the seminar experience.

HU 3910-D01 PRACTICUM IN HUMANITIES AND ARTS: ANIMATION SHORT FILM (CRN 25523)
Rosenstock, Joshua
This Inquiry Practicum in Visual Art/IMGD focuses on the production of short animated films. Students will create storyboards, build characters, animate scenes, and edit soundtracks. They will also consider more broadly topics such as visual storytelling, artistic style, character design, and mime.

HU 3910-D02 PRACTICUM IN HUMANITIES AND ARTS: DRAMA/THEATRE PERFORMANCE (CRN 25524)
Vick, Susan
This Inquiry Practicum in Drama/Theatre Performances will involve participants in the rehearsal and staging of the annual New Voices festival of original works, a collaboration of Humanities and Arts, Drama/Theatre, and Masque. New Voices is currently celebrating its 25th year as part of the WPI academic theatre program. The Drama/Theatre professors work together every year to stage the festival. New Voices opens in the fourth week of the term, with the following three weeks devoted to assembling a project portfolio which documents the results of the study. Students may enroll in this practicum for acting, directing, dramaturgy, or other performance areas with the approval of the professor.
HU 3910-D03  PRACTICUM IN HUMANITIES AND ARTS: MUSIC PERFORMANCE (CRN 25525)
Weeks, Douglas G.
The Inquiry Practicum in Music Performance is designed for students who, for their final project in HUA, intend to perform a vocal or instrumental recital. Students will learn how to prepare for a public performance and practice, in a master class setting, their own material in preparation for the final recital. Permission of the instructor is required.

HU 3910-D04  PRACTICUM IN HUMANITIES AND ARTS: TECHNICAL THEATRE (CRN 25542)
Sands, Jessica T.
This Inquiry Practicum in Technical Theatre will involve participants in the rehearsal and staging of the annual New Voices festival of original works, a collaboration of Humanities and Arts, Drama/Theatre, and Masque. New Voices is currently celebrating its 25th year as part of the WPI academic theatre program. The Drama/Theatre professors work together every year to stage the festival. New Voices opens in the fourth week of the term, with the following three weeks devoted to assembling a project portfolio which documents the results of the study. Students may enroll in this practicum for design, technology, stage management, or other production areas with the approval of the professor.
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