MONDAYS

Your Brain on Drugs UNIV 197N
Donna M. Zucker, School of Nursing, donna@acad.umass.edu
This seminar will explore the lived experience of substance abuse and reflections on rehabilitation. Additional sources of information will come from media accounts of a famous author/substance abuser and scientific reports of the neurophysiologic basis of addiction. Understandings of the physical and emotional aspects of addiction including socially acceptable and unacceptable addictions will be explored. Required reading: Frey, J. (2003). A Million Little Pieces. Anchor Books: NY, NY (9 hours to read)

Earthquakes in the Modern World UNIV 197GEO
Laurie Brown, Geosciences, lbrown@geo.umass.edu
Earthquakes are some of the most curious and destructive natural events on Earth. When they occur in heavily populated areas, like San Francisco in 1906 or Kobe, Japan in 1995, they are devastating. In this seminar we will investigate the phenomenon of earthquakes in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. This will include a discussion of the science of earthquakes - where and why earthquakes occur, the varying size of earthquakes, and the causes of earthquakes. We will then look at earthquakes related to society – including earthquake hazards for society, ways to ease earthquake damage (engineering, building styles, planning, and zoning), earthquake prediction, and even the possibility of earthquake prevention. Recent large earthquakes will be used as our focal points, and students will each investigate one specific earthquake throughout the semester.

Public Policy: Current Issues on the Agenda UNIV 197POLI
Brenda Bushouse, Political Science, bushouse@polsci.umass.edu
This course will begin with the fundamentals of the policy process. Sessions 1-4 will cover problem definition, agenda setting, policy design, and decision-making). After establishing the basics, the rest of the weekly discussions will focus on a topical news item drawn from the headlines. Students will be assigned a brief article from the New York Times, Washington Post or other periodical (posted to SPARK) in advance of the class meeting and we will focus the weekly discussion on the type of policy (distributive, regulatory, redistributive), the benefits/burden distribution, and the framing of the policy. We will track the movement of these policies on the governmental agenda over the course of the semester. Students will gain insights into the policy process as well as learning about the data sources available to be informed citizens. The class will utilize web-based information in our discussions.

The Limits of Human Performance UNIV 197K
Brian Umberger, Kinesiology, umberger@kin.umass.edu
What limits our ability to jump higher, run farther, or react quicker? In this course, students will explore the physiological, neural, and mechanical bases for the upper limits of human performance. Learning will take place through a series of lectures, readings, discussions, and assignments. Where appropriate, reference will be made to exceptional non-human athletes.

Chemical Technologies of the Americas UNIV 197CHEM1
Michael J. Knapp, Chemistry, mknapp@chem.umass.edu
The goal of this seminar is to explore American Indian civilizations through the lens of chemical technologies. From the use of minerals for artwork, to ceramics and metal-working, civilization relies on chemical techniques. We will discuss the relationship between natural resources and the products of civilizations found in the Americas. In the process, first-year students will achieve two goals: to relate chemical principles to the real world; and gain an introduction to the material culture of Native American Indians.
TUESDAYS

Friedrich Nietzsche’s Beyond Good and Evil UNIV 197 GER1
Chancellor Robert Holub, chancellor@umass.edu
There is no better introduction to the mature philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche than Beyond Good and Evil, which appeared in 1886. Consisting of nine parts, this work provides insight into all major theses in his late philosophy. It begins with reflection on epistemology and a skeptical look at the role of the philosopher, moves to a consideration of what the “free spirit” will offer as an alternative, and then turns to detailed considerations about religion, psychology, morality, and art. We will be reading and discussing this seminal work of Nietzschean philosophy in one-hour sessions at approximately the pace of one section per session. Students will be expected to contribute to discussions and to make on occasion short presentations on individual aphorisms.

Supreme Court Cases On Religious Freedom UNIV 197HIST
Daniel Gordon, History, dgordon@history.umass.edu
Should Native Americans be allowed to use narcotics in religious ceremonies? Should the Amish be exempt from sending their children to school? Should prison inmates be allowed to practice satanic cults? Students will learn how the U.S. Supreme Court has responded to challenging cases that test the limits of religious freedom. The class also looks at how other countries deal with similar cases.

History Beyond the Classroom: Making the Most of Your UMass Experience UNIV197HIST1
Alice Nash, History, anash@history.umass.edu
Learn how to take advantage of the many opportunities for learning beyond the classroom while you’re in college! If you plan to be a history major or just enjoy history, you’ll be amazed by the wealth of resources available to you at UMass and the Five Colleges. Weekly activities will include visits to local archives and museums, which might lead to future research projects or internships, as well as attendance at history-related lectures, films or performances selected to complement the interests and coursework of seminar students. Short readings will be assigned. Written work includes a series of brief reflection papers and a final essay. All events will be on the UMass campus or accessible on foot or via the Five College bus system. The majority of events will be free.

1989/2009: Twenty Years after the Fall of the Berlin Wall UNIV 197HIST2
Jon Berndt Olsen, History, jon@history.umass.edu
This seminar will use the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall to examine not only the historic revolutionary events in Germany in 1989, but also reflect on the moral and legal issues that are directly connected to any type of political revolt. We will explore this topic not only through historical readings, but also through film and political simulations or role-plays. This first year seminar will be connected to other events here on campus and at the Five Colleges taking place in the Fall commemorating 1989, such as the Wende Flicks film festival here at UMass, guest speakers at Amherst College, a public art installation at Smith College and other community events.

How to Study UNIV 197PSY
Richard S. Bogartz, Psychology, bogartz@psych.umass.edu
Ever wonder what to do about test anxiety? Is how to study and get the most out of the time you put in a mystery? Do you know what the single most important feature of studying is? Do you know the relationship between your calendar and your grades? Procrastination a problem you just can’t figure out how to beat? Record optimality of taking notes in class? Do you know how to take tests? Any idea what the ten study habits of successful students are? What does it take to be a good listener in class? Do you know the effects of where you study and when you study on how much you remember? Any idea what the difference is between following and understanding? Are you familiar with goal setting and the characteristics of appropriate goals? In this seminar we discuss these issues and many more.
Comic Books and Graphic Novels UNIV 197EDUC
Sally Galman, School of Education (TECS), sally@educ.umass.edu
Comic books and graphic novels are fun to read in your spare time, but did you know that they might also be relevant to your studies at UMass? Over the last decade, the related text genres of the comic book and graphic novel have experienced increasing visibility, popularity and—in academic and artistic contexts—text legitimacy. However, the boundaries for their respective genre definition and the criteria for aesthetic and literary evaluation remain the subject of some debate. In this course, students will 1) learn the history and theory behind text genres that combine contiguous text and image, 2) read and reflect upon a selection of modern classic works from a diverse body of authors/artists and 3) hone their creative and critical thinking and writing skills in designing their own final paper or project. Guided by the instructor, who is also an award-winning cartoonist, students will explore research, literary and artistic applications of comics and graphic novels in the context of their proposed majors and areas of study and interest. Due to the high cost of academic texts, all materials will be available both online and in library reserves when possible, and students will engage in a presentation format for instruction and discussion.

Introduction to Art and Artmaking UNIV 197A
John Simpson, Art/FAC, simpson@acad.umass.edu
First-year students will learn the fundamentals of drawing, painting and some art history. Students will work closely with instructor to create works on paper and canvas. They will be introduced to practices and concepts of creativity within a comfortable atmosphere of other students, a highly productive art studio and a functioning group of galleries in the Hampden complex in the southwest residential area of campus. Meeting once a week, we’ll review assignments, discuss projects, draw and paint.

Arsenic Around the World UNIV 197CH
Julian Tyson, Chemistry, Tyson@chem.umass.edu
Is it safe? An introduction to the ideas behind our abilities to protect ourselves from naturally occurring toxic chemical substances in our environment, and to deal responsibly with those chemical substances we deliberately distribute into the environment. A discussion of the environmental, analytical, and bio-geo chemistry of arsenic and arsenic compounds, whose properties and uses range from potent pharmaceuticals, to innocuous seafood constituents, to chronic and acute environmental toxins, as well as pesticides, herbicides, embalming fluids, poultry growth promoters, bullet alloys, and wallpaper pigments. The issues surrounding the arsenic contamination of ground water (the greatest mass poisonings in history) currently facing many countries, including the USA, will be examined, and strategies for remediation of contaminated drinking water and agricultural land will be discussed. Portable field test kits, designed for measuring arsenic in drinking water, will be used for testing of waters, soils, pressure-treated wood and some food stuffs.

The Polymer Age UNIV 197POLY
Sam Gido & Shaw Ling, Polymer Science & Engineering, gido@mail.pse.umass.edu or slhsu@plysci.umass.edu
The rise of human civilization is marked by the development of ever more advanced materials: Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age. How will future historians refer to our time? The Silicon Age, or Perhaps the Age of Polymers? Polymers encompass a broad spectrum of our world from the mundane, such as plastics for packaging, to the cutting edge, such as the wings of advanced aircraft, or flexible electronic devices. The DNA that encodes the blueprints for life, and the proteins that build our bodies, are also polymers. Professors in the Polymer Science and Engineering Department will introduce first year students to polymer enabled advances and opportunities in biomedical engineering, electronics, energy, packaging, clothing and other important applications.
**What Are Emotions?** UNIV 197PHIL  
Ernesto V. Garcia, Philosophy, evg@philos.umass.edu  
Emotions play a central role in our human lives. Consider all the emotions you can experience in a single day: excitement when your favorite sport team wins, anxiety about an upcoming social event, happiness when getting an A on a difficult exam, resentment when somebody mistreats you, and feelings of love and trust towards family and friends. What are the emotions? What is their relationship to reason and to morality? How do they contribute to a meaningful life?

**Filming the French Revolution** UNIV 197FR  
Julie Chandler Hayes, Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, jhayes@llc.umass.edu  
From the earliest silent movies to Sophia Coppola’s recent Hollywood block-buster, the events of the French Revolution have inspired numerous adaptations for the silver screen. By discussing films made in different countries over the course of the past century, we’ll be able to appreciate the ways in which the Revolution has meant different things at different times to different audiences. Was Marie-Antoinette a heartless tyrant or an innocent victim? Were the Revolution’s leaders idealists or cynical opportunists? How can we understand the Terror? Through these films, we’ll also observe the changing values of cinematic art. We’ll begin with a brief introduction to the historiography of the revolutionary decade (1789-1999). Students will screen films in the library’s media reserves; class sessions will be devoted to discussion of the films and occasional readings (film reviews, essays). Students will write short response papers and take a role in leading class discussions.

**Dinosaur Tracks, Communes, Massacres and Poets** UNIV 197ECON  
John R. Stifler, Economics, jstfler@econs.umass.edu  
A course about where you in fact are when you’re at UMass: in a prehistoric lakebed, near the sites of experimental communities frequented in the 1850s by ex-slaves and in the 1960s by hippies, a short walk from the house where Emily Dickinson wrote her poems and the college where Robert Frost taught English classes. This seminar will survey amazing events and people connected to the Valley, including preachers Henry Ward Beecher and Jonathan Edwards, poets Frost, Dickinson, Richard Wilbur and Sylvia Plath; geologist Edward Hitchcock, who discovered dinosaur tracks in the Connecticut River shale; Sojourner Truth, a former slave and a leader in both abolition and women’s rights; and the Deerfield Massacre, when Native Americans attacked the village of Deerfield, killed some of the residents, and took the rest to Canada. Lively readings, guest speakers, and a field trip.

**Childhood Today Around the World** UNIV 197EDUC2  
Grace J. Craig, Professor, Emerita, Education, gcraig@educ.umass.edu  
How is childhood experienced in the U.S. today, as compared to childhood in China or in a country in the Middle East? Beliefs, attitudes and childrearing practices differ dramatically around the world. What makes a difference? What are some of the commonalities? Can we put aside our western cultural lenses to “see the child” from the perspective of another’s culture.

What is the impact of changing family patterns, powerful media images, and different educational or discipline practices and standards in a changing global world? How is all of this understood, by the child, by the parents, the community? The class will explore a sampling of particular childhood circumstances, -- in readings, slides, video clips and discussion with foreign students -- examining the beliefs and attitudes surrounding the child, together with related developmental research. Together the class will explore frameworks for understanding these selected children and their potential development.
From Achilles to Batman: Where Are the Heroes? UNIV 197CL
Kenneth F. Kitchell, Jr., Classics, kkitchel@classics.umass.edu
The word hero is used a great deal and most cultures have their heroes. But what is a hero? Is it the same for all cultures and times? To answer this we will read selections from Homer and Vergil from antiquity and for modern times will read the novel Watership Down by Richard Adams. The hero will also be addressed in movies through viewing parts of such movies, among others, as Batman and of Lord of the Rings. Students can expect weekly readings, discussions of materials read (reinforced via reading quizzes and/or a reading journal) and a brief paper to end the course. Films will be placed on Library reserve as well.

Foundations of Self-Leadership UNIV 197NRSG1
Eleanor Vanetzian, RN, PhD, School of Nursing, ellie@nursing.umass.edu
In this seminar, students will explore concepts of leadership and self-leadership where a distinction is made between them. Self-leadership is the process that we experience in influencing ourselves. Self-leadership will be examined in terms of its application in familiar and unfamiliar situations; its role in student life and goal achievement. Published narratives and self-described situations will provide the background for reflecting on topics related to experiences that result in personal and academic goal attainment. Through small group discussion, students' existing patterns of leadership behavior will be identified that serve as foundation for development of self-leadership behaviors concurrent with insight into aspects of cognitive and ethical development based on motivation and cognitive social theory.

Community, Identity, and Performance UNIV 197ENGL
Jenny Spencer, English, jspencer@english.umass.edu
An interactive, interdisciplinary exploration of performance as both an expressive tool and a research method. Students are introduced to artists such as Bill T. Jones, Anna Deveare Smith, and Augusto Boal, each of whom uses the performing arts as way of knowing, a method of personal exploration, an approach to community building, and a form of political action. Students will participate in creative exercises, and short writing and performance assignments.

Hans Christian Andersen in New Light UNIV 197GER
Frank Hugus, LLC/IPO, hugus@ipo.umass.edu
The fame of the Danish Author Hans Christian Andersen (1805-1875) rests on a mere dozen or so of his 166 tales and stories. Yet these tales comprise only a very small portion of his overall oeuvre, which includes six novels, several hundred poems, nearly forty works for the stage, five travel books, and two autobiographies. We will begin the Andersen seminar by examining selected tales. During the course of the semester we will also read and discuss his debut novel (The Improvisoratore), a number of his poems, and one of his plays (“The Moorish Girl”). Each student will be asked to give a ten-minute in-class report on an Andersen tale of his or her own choice.

Educating America’s Youngest Children UNIV 197EDUC1
Claire E. Hamilton, TECS/Education, cehamilt@educ.umass.edu
Early childhood education has been making the news. President Obama and Massachusetts Governor Patrick have prominently identified early childhood education as a major goal for their administrations. In this seminar we’ll explore the diverse contexts in which early education takes place as well as how we educate young children aged birth to eight years. We’ll consider why policy makers, politicians, educators and parents view early education as important through an examination of the current status of American’s young children and their families and a review of the relevant research. As students explore these issues we’ll also talk about what career options are available and what preparation is needed to become an early childhood educator.
IT Across the Disciplines UNIV 197IT
Patricia Galvis Assmus, IT Program, pgya@art.umass.edu or itprogram@provost.umass.edu
How did they do that? Just how do robotics work? Or how are special effects in your favorite film or game created? How about the articles in magazines or web pages? Your bank account? Your X-rays? Almost every field is dependent to some degree on the use of digital technology. Some uses are more obvious than others. This seminar surveys the many ways technology is used in the various disciplines. If you like to work with computers, you might find a new area of interest. If you don’t, you might find some redeeming value in them. At the very least, you will learn some facts to amaze your friends and family with while exploring possibilities and opportunities in your education.

THURSDAYS

Readings and Writings in Visual Art UNIV 197ART1
Laura Holland, Art, lholland@art.umass.edu
How do we “read” and interpret visual art? How do we write about what we see? How do artists write about their own work and articulate their intentions and inspirations? To explore these questions, students will visit local galleries, formulate their approaches to looking at artwork, articulate their responses to artwork in writing and in discussion sessions, read about approaches to art criticism, have opportunities to meet with artists and/or curators, develop questions to address to an artist or curator, conduct interviews concerning the artist’s/curator’s work, and write profiles based on those interviews.

Forest Futures UNIV 197NRC
Paul K. Barten, Natural Resources Conservation, pkbarten@nrc.umass.edu
This seminar will draw upon my long-term work with: the US Forest Service (Forest-to-Faucet Partnership), National Research Council (three study teams since 1997), Harvard Forest and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (as Chair of the Massachusetts Forestry Committee), and Sustainable Forest Management National Centre of Excellence in Canada (Scientist-at-Large, 2003-present) to introduce first year students to several complementary and overlapping "futures" and their implications the sustainability of forests, people, and other living things.

FRIDAYS

Sustainability for the Future: The Solar Decathlon UNIV 197ART2
Ray K. Mann, Art, rkmann@art.umass.edu
In Fall 2009 faculty and students from across the University will assemble a proposal for entry into the DOE-sponsored Solar Decathlon 2011, a two-year competition where 20 university teams from around the world compete to design, build, and operate the most attractive and effective renewable-energy powered (solar, wind, biological, etc.) house. A team-taught seminar based on the Decathlon will be coordinated by the faculty-in-charge. Each week will focus on a key element of design, including architecture, systems components (including energy, lighting, water), and market viability. One public lecture will be hosted by The Environmental Institute. Students will get a vibrant window into sustainability teaching and research across disciplines (e.g., art/architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, natural resources conservation, green building, business, communications, computer science and others), and may even be inspired to join the team.