Horticulture & Health
UNIVRSTY 197PSIS2 Spire # 19188 Mondays 1:25-2:15 PM
Allen Barker barker@pssci.umass.edu

A large portion of the dietary needs of humans are met through foods derived from plants. The nutritional value of these foods may be altered by plant genetics (species, varieties) and by crop and soil management. This course will address the changes in food composition that may develop in response to selection of plants and management of food crop production. Topics of the course will include minerals, vitamins, antioxidants, proteins, carbohydrates, fats, organically grown foods, genetically engineered food crops, and other issues that deal with food composition or production in relation to human health. Students will conduct research and will present seminars and write papers on the topics.

The Light Fantastic: Wonders of Biology
UNIVRSTY 197BIOCH Spire # 18821 Mondays 5:00PM - 5:50PM
Alice Cheung acheung@biochem.umass.edu

The title of the course is adopted from an article in Scientific America, Dec. 2008 issue. We will start from the theme explored in this article of amazing images of living organisms and biomolecules seen through the light microscope. Students will be asked to research on selected images. For instance, an image of DNA in water in this article will start the discussion of the structure of DNA and its function. Another example is a "Rainbow Zebrafish" that shows how different fluorescent proteins are used to follow complex neural pathways. A third example is an image of pollen on the stigma of a plant, the first step that leads to fertilization, which is also the subject of research in our laboratory. We will expand from these images to discuss basic molecular and cell biology behind them.

Media, Fashion, Culture, Style
UNIVRSTY 197COMM1 Spire # 18824 Mondays 6:00PM - 6:50PM
Anne Ciecko ciecko@comm.umass.edu

This seminar will look at the use of clothing for communicative expression and cultural meaning, and the way it has been represented in the media. Our interdisciplinary approach will be informed mainly by cultural studies and film/media studies but will draw from other discourses and fields such as journalism, cultural anthropology, visual rhetoric/semiotics, religious studies, gender and sexuality studies, performance theory, and design practices. Our main examples will include cinema, television, street-style and personal style blogs, fashion journalism, and advertisements. We will incorporate short readings, classroom discussion, short writing exercises (cultural critiques), in-class interactive hands-on activities/presentations/projects, and at least one field trip.
Technology Today: Present Yourself the Web 2.0 Way
UNIVRSTY 197SCH  Spire# 18820          Tuesdays 2:30-3:20 PM
Gail Cruise  gcruise@som.umass.edu

This Technology Today: Present Yourself the Web 2.0 Way Seminar will introduce students to the technology issues and applications used by organizations today. Students will explore such issues as: the use of networking technologies in organizations, web 2.0 culture and communication, ethics and the internet, security and protection of information, and communication privacy and employee monitoring. In each class, students will learn how to utilize technology applications, including a Wiki, Prezi (a zooming presentation editor), and current visualization methods for PowerPoint. Google, Facebook, YouTube, and the Internet will be visited to understand how technology is used to communicate with stakeholders. At the end of the seminar, students will gain knowledge of the complexity of information technology issues today and gain experience in applying these technologies to present themselves the Web 2.0 way.

Brazil for Beginners
UNIVRSTY 197HIST5  Spire# 18746          Tuesdays AND Thursdays 4:00PM - 5:15PM
Todd Diacon  tdiacon@umass.edu                * this class meets 2x/week for half the semester

Brazil. Some say it will be the world’s next superpower. Let’s learn more about this country that will host the 2014 World Cup of soccer, and the 2016 Summer Olympic Games. We will explore this magical place through feature-length films, video clips, and course readings. No previous knowledge Brazil is required nor expected.

Communities and Colonization
UNIVRSTY 197ANTH1  Spire # 19226          Tuesdays 4:00 – 4:50 PM
Jean S. Forward  jforward@anthro.umass.edu

Most nation states have been colonized and/or colonizers. How does the process of colonization affect people on the community level? Using an interdisciplinary approach, this course will look at some of the many different ways that colonization affects communities. Specifically, we’ll look at English colonization of Scottish Gaels in Scotland and Nova Scotia, Canada and English colonization of the Mi’kmaq in Nova Scotia.

Planning for Climate Change
UNIVRSTY 197RP3  Spire# 18816          Wednesdays 9:05-9:55 AM
Elisabeth Hamin  emhamin@larp.umass.edu

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing us globally, but it will be experienced locally, and needs to be addressed across all scales. This class provides a chance to get a quick introduction to the most current thinking on the impacts of climate change on our world, and what should be done about it. Each student will adopt a region or country, and try to see the problem through that country’s eyes. We’ll think through the various policies we need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and prepare society for a different (harsher, more variable) climate future. Most of the class focus will be on local planning actions, but we’ll talk about national and international policy as well. The class is not just about the bad news, but about what we can do about a changing climate, individually and working together.
Looking at Art: Listening to Artists
UNIVRSTY 197ART1  Spire # 19189  Thursdays  4:00-4:50 PM
Laura Holland  lholland@art.umass.edu

How do we look at and interpret visual art? How do we describe what we see? What do artists say about their own work and how do they articulate their ideas? To examine these questions, students will explore approaches to looking at artwork during visits to local galleries and articulate their responses both in writing and in class discussion sessions. One major project will be to write an artist profile in response to an Artist Talk or Interview.

Music Is Everywhere
UNIVRSTY 197MUS3  Spire# 18733    Tuesdays  4:00 -4:50 PM
Miriam Jenkins  mjenkins@music.umass.edu

Music plays a role in many facets of life such as medicine, sports, entertainment, law, religion, psychology, history, art and literature. In this seminar students will first acquire tools for more engaged listening to any style of music, and then develop a project exploring music’s role in either their major field or another area of personal interest. Students whose interests are related will be encouraged to collaborate on their projects, and to make a group presentation at the end of the semester. Throughout the semester, students will keep an ongoing music journal of in-class guided listening to a variety of examples, including some of their own choosing and some presented by other class members.

Parasites and People, The Good, the Bad, the Yucky
UNIVRSTY 197NRC3 Spire# 18822    Thursdays  4:00 – 4:50 PM
Guy Lanza  glanza@eco.umass.edu

People and parasites have had a fascinating and often paradoxical relationship for eons. Parasites are excellent models that help to explain the co-evolution of vertebrate and invertebrate animals and can tell us a lot about ecology and natural processes. Much has been written about parasitic diseases, but did you know that parasites may offer new cures for human illnesses or that polluted water can protect us from parasitic infections? Did you know that tapeworms were once touted as “diet pills”? And what about the connections between climate change, deforestation, and parasitic diseases? In this seminar we will discuss some interesting aspects of the relationship between people and parasites and speculate on how they may change our lives in the very near future. The seminar will generally follow the content of the book “Parasites- Tales of Humanity’s Most Unwelcome guests.” by Rosemary Drisdelle, 2010, ISBN978-0-520-25938-6, University of California Press, Berkeley. Students will submit a brief paper at the end of the last seminar providing their critical analysis of the content of selected seminar topics.
From Tragedy to Comedy: Shakespeare’s Women Today  
UNIVRSTY  197THEAT1  Spire # 19150  Wednesdays  10:10-11:00AM  
Michael Ringler  m_ringler@yahoo.com  

Using Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet) by Ann – Marie MacDonald as well as Shakespeare’s Othello and Romeo and Juliet, we will explore the way familiar icons can be re-contextualized and re-invented to give new insights into Shakespeare’s work, particularly his tragic female characters, in ways that resonate in surprising ways for today’s young audiences. Included weekly topics: Infatuation vs. love?; Cross-dressing; women and swords; Tybalt’s and Othello’s jealousy; Changes in social norms from Elizabethan times to today.

Inequality in the US: Causes & Consequences  
UNIVRSTY  197POLI2  Spire# 19158  Mondays 7:00-7:50 PM  
Dean Robinson  deanr@polsci.umass.edu  

Economic Inequality has risen in recent years to rival one of the most unequal periods in US history - the 1920s. This course will examine the social, political and economic origins of inequality in the United States. It will also draw on social science literature that examines the impact of inequality on health, violence, educational performance and economic opportunity.

Staging Identities  
UNIVRSTY  197ENGL6  Spire #18823  Thursdays  5:30PM - 6:20PM  
Jenny Spencer  jspencer@english.umass.edu  

This class is devoted to an exploration of the intersections between performance (onstage and in everyday life) and identities (our own, and other peoples). We will look primarily at how our own identities and past experiences shape our expectations as members of an audience, and we will view and discuss live performances that take up issues around identity. Students will attend and discuss 2 live performances as a group, in addition to analyzing video-taped performances. Readings will be posted online.

Forensic DNA Analysis  
UNIVRSTY  197ANML1  Spire # 19151  Mondays  3:35-4:25 PM  
Janice Telfer  telfer@vasci.umass.edu  

Forensic DNA analysis is often in the headlines and little understood. What are the odds that your DNA is a perfect "match" with the DNA of a murderer? How does DNA analysis determine "who the daddy is"? Why is the chain of custody of evidence so important? We'll discuss the basics of DNA structure, polymerase chain reaction (PCR), and historic cases such as the Hemings-Jefferson paternity case, the OJ Simpson case and the murder of the Czar and his family.