

FALL 2025 SELECTED TOPICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART 288: ArtWorks: Creation and Connection (.5 unit)

Ashley Feagin

Designed for students considering working in the arts, this course offers an in-depth exploration of art exhibition curation, installation, promotion, and community engagement. Participants will engage in interactive, hands-on experiences while honing essential professional communication skills, preparing them for dynamic and innovative careers within the arts and cultural industries.

ART 289: beginning Ceramics for Majors/Minors (1 unit)

Shauna Merriman

A beginning ceramic studio course with clay mixing, more glazes, and additional firing options for students who want more than the Artistic Mode (Art 261: Ceramics I). It still serves as a prerequisite to Ceramics II. Like Print or Painting, this course is stacked with all the upper-level Ceramics courses. It is ideal for students who have already taken a studio art course, so they know the Elements and Principles and have been in a Critique. Open to non-majors/minors in Studio Art/Art History with permission.

BIOL 289: Biology of Insects (1 unit)

Abigail Cahill

Prerequisite: Bio 195 or permission of instructor

This class will count as a List I course for Biology majors and Environmental Biology minors.

Most animal species on the planet are insects. They play critical roles in our ecosystems and provide valuable services to humans, but most people have an aversion to this common-yet-misunderstood group of animals. This course will cover the ecology, evolution, and classification of insects, with a focus on the current crisis in insect biodiversity: insects are apparently declining, with dire consequences for the rest of our ecosystem. The project-based labs will use the Whitehouse Nature Center to get students hands-on experience with our local fauna.

E&M 288: Small Business Management (.5 unit)

Stephen Young

Are you dreaming of starting your own business? Or helping an existing small business develop and grow? Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and require a special set of skills for success. In this course, we will explore a number of business disciplines required to effectively manage a small enterprises like business entry and planning, marketing, finance, human resources, and legal aspects. These will equip you with the skills to start and manage a successful business. Specifically, you'll learn how to grab the opportunities small businesses offer while overcoming the unique challenges they face.

E&M 288: Project Management & Leadership (.5 unit)

Stephen Young

Being a Project Manager requires you to organize, lead, and control all facets of a project and manage a team to achieve a common goal. Today's fast paced, global businesses are constantly investigating new ventures to further their stance in their selected industry. This course analyzes the knowledge and skills necessary to be a successful project manager and team leader. Methods of planning, executing, managing, and evaluating complex projects are studied in detail. Topics include project selection, project organizational structures, project scheduling and budgeting, workflow analysis, managing risk, and forming and communicating with team members.

ETHN 289: Latina/os in the Media (1 unit)**Lucia Soriano**

This course aims to provide students with an introduction to research and approaches to the study of Latina/os and/in the media. The course will familiarize students with academic and non-academic writing that focuses on English and Spanish language media in formats like television, music, social media, and film. The course material will engage students with questions of representation, stereotypes, production, circulation, and consumption.

GEOL 289: Streams, Lakes, and Wetlands (1 unit)**Joseph Lee-Cullin**

Pre-requisites: GEOL 101 or GEOL 103

Students will have an opportunity to explore freshwater ecosystems through an ecohydrological framework. The material will largely focus on the Great Lakes region, but will necessarily account for a variety of other regions (Mississippi River watershed, mountain stream environments, Iranian wetlands etc.). Specific topics will focus on the biochemical composition of surface waters, the movement of water from the atmosphere through the Earth's surface, human impacts and interventions, and modeling surface water systems. Laboratory emphasizes field and laboratory methodologies.

HIST/WGSS 389: Gendered Violence and Power**Sarah Jacobson**

Though violence is not necessary to create power, it often maintains it. This course examines how gendered violence is experienced, produced, and performed in conjunction with structures of power. Taking case studies from across the globe, each unit will contrast a historic case study with contemporary discussions to highlight the long roots of current issues. The goal is to "unmask" the intersections between culture, politics, and the body to see how gendered violence and power combine to create (and reinforce) inequity and difference.

Prerequisites: a 100-level History course **or** WGSS 111 **or** instructor approval.

KIN 389: Therapeutic Exercise (1 unit)**Anna Stinson**

This course explores the principles of therapeutic exercise prescription for common musculoskeletal injuries. Students will learn to assess and design exercise programs tailored to specific body regions, including the spine, upper, and lower extremities. Emphasis will be placed on the hands-on application of progressive exercise strategies to facilitate rehabilitation for various injuries. Students will gain practical experience in modifying exercise parameters to accommodate individual patient needs and optimize recovery outcomes.

MUS 189: Arts in the Holocaust (1 unit)**David Abbott**

This course will explore the social/political upheaval of Europe from 1930-1945 with WWII with an emphasis how musicians and artists were singled out and manipulated for political purposes. We see today how entire groups of people are being treated as undesirables, ostracized and even deported all because of their ethnic background. We will discuss the concept of being part of a community here at Albion and throughout the world. Students will study and learn about the conditions and climate for artistic expression, including music composed under socialist patronage as well as a reaction or resistance to government and social repression. Students will read first person testimonials of people who were victimized and, in many cases sent for camps for extermination as part of "Final Solution." The class will view documentaries about courageous individuals who resisted efforts to remove them from society depicting how art was viewed and dismissed subjectively according to narrow social and political perspectives. Students do not need any prior music training or successfully complete this course.

MUS 189: History of Musical Theatre (1 unit)**Jennifer Ribeiro**

This class is open to all majors and will be an overview of the history of musical theatre, from early operetta to works on Broadway/off-Broadway today. While this class will take a scholarly approach to history, we will also have the opportunity to explore the art form as observers and participants in the form of class projects and field trips.

PSYC 289: Psychology of Gender (1 unit)**Ciara Cannoy**

This course explores and analyzes psychological research on gender. Emphases are on developing an understanding of evidence-based gender differences in domains such as cognition, personality, communication, emotion, and mental health. Focus will also be given to the origins and consequences of sex stereotypes. The course will explore various theories used to explain gender differences, gender identity, and gender expression. Some of the issues addressed include:

- What is femininity and masculinity? How much do they vary in different cultures and social contexts?
- What types of biases can influence research findings in the area of gender?
- What similarities and differences have been found between men and women in domains such as cognitive skills, aggression, empathy, communication, emotional expression, and mental health?
- What major theories have been used to explain these similarities and differences?

Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the cultural construction of gender
2. Understand current issues being addressed by the psychology field with respect to gender
3. Compare major theories about gender differences
4. Understand how gender and gendered socialization influences psychological processes
5. Analyze knowledge from relevant text and evaluate research findings in the area of gender within a historical/cultural perspective

THEA 289: Theatrical Stage Make-up (1 unit)**Stephanie Henderson**