

Special Topics Course Descriptions Fall 2021

Undergraduate

CJ 349 Crisis Intervention

This course focuses on crisis theory and methods of crisis intervention. The course will address specific crises that occur with individuals, families, and community. Topics may include crime and violence, victimization, interventions with children and adolescents, suicide, issues with mental health and drug/alcohol misuse, and death.

CJ 340 Homeland Security

The course is designed to introduce students to the established Department of Homeland Security. The course will examine issues such as interdepartmental workings, legal restrictions placed on the DHS mandates, how the DHS interacts with both domestic and international agencies, and how effective the DHS has been since its inception.

CM-191 American English Lang Diversity

This course will examine American English. The focus will be on how linguistic diversity is expressed in a number of regional and ethnic communities/variations, e.g., Creole, Native American, Spanish, Asian, Ebonics, slang, Rap, and so forth. The goal is to evaluate the role of language in identity formation.

HE-400 Infectious Disease Epidemiology

In this course, general principles of the epidemiology of infectious diseases will be covered including COVID-19. The students will discuss the ways in which infectious diseases are classified, the basic epidemiologic characteristics of infectious diseases, and how the system of surveillance of infectious diseases works.

HI-450 Teaching Revolution

No course description available. Please contact the instructor for more information.

LS-190 Intro to Liberal Studies

A special topics course that introduces students to interdisciplinary scholarship and learning as well as student-initiated/directed learning.

UR-191 Intro to Social Work

No course description available. Please contact the instructor for more information.

Graduate

ED-971 Culturally Responsive Teaching

This course challenges participants (teachers, and others in the education profession) to reconsider their body of professional knowledge on culture so as to be effective at teaching culturally diverse students in these sensitive times. Relevant topics to be discussed are:

1. Culturally Responsive Teaching. What it is and what it is not
2. Assessing Teacher Biases and making relevant changes
3. The impact Socio-economic status has on students' learning outcomes
4. The Chronic Achievement Gap and how to solve it
5. Best Practices for Family & and Community Engagement
6. Creating a Culturally Responsive Classroom Management Plan for Equity

EN-998 Disabilities Stories

This course will introduce students to the field of disability studies by examining depictions of disability in literature, broadly construed. We will discuss foundational texts in the field and consider key terms including ableism, access, design, medicalization, representation, and prosthesis. We will also discuss the ways that disability intersects with other aspects of identity such as race, class, gender, and sexuality. Our syllabus will span from the nineteenth century to the twenty-first century and will include novels, poems, memoirs, and films, as well as critical essays written by leading disability studies scholars. Through our readings, conversations, and written assignments, we will question the construction of bodily, mental, and social norms and analyze how narratives both resist and conform to cultural conceptions of disability. No prior knowledge is necessary.

HI-990 Black Europe

The history of Black people in Europe often elicits images of the joyous Notting Hill Carnival in London or North African families struggling to survive on the outskirts of Paris. These are recent developments in the last century. What of the women and men who lived in Italy, Spain, or the Netherlands prior to the 20th century? People of African descent visited European cities during the 15th century while working on merchant ships or navigating trade routes, and many of them made their home in port cities. Jumping back much further, people from the northern and eastern regions of Africa were active in the Roman army, some helping the Empire expand south, west, and north. As one recent book describes it, this is “an untold history.”^[1]

During weekly meetings this fall, we will examine the long history of Black people in Europe, their experiences, their struggles, their contributions, from the Roman Empire to the present. Rather than focusing our energy solely on scholarly monographs, we will engage with a variety of sources throughout the semester, including memoirs, novels, (dub)poetry, film, and other primary sources. This is a hybrid course centered on discussion with 4 in-person meetings and the remainder on Zoom. The semester will finish with an in-person research presentation following 2-3 weeks of independent work. Final schedule and readings TBD in August. Feel free to email me any time with questions or concerns.

[\[1\]](#) Olivette Otele, *African Europeans: An Untold History* (London: Hurst, 2020).

HI-990 Civil Rights Movement

This graduate research seminar addresses the following questions about civil rights movements in the U.S. What are civil rights anyway? How does a movement begin, define itself, take shape, gain momentum, mark progress, and persist in the struggle against those who oppose it? How do movements end or transform? How have civil rights movements shaped our nation, your own history, and our discipline?

HI-990 Teaching Revolution

No course description available. Please contact the instructor for more information.