The Interdisciplinary Studies Program guides students who want to develop interdisciplinary majors. It coordinates with faculty engaged in interdisciplinary initiatives or teaching courses of an interdisciplinary nature.

The Interdisciplinary Studies major offers a student the opportunity to develop an individualized interdisciplinary course of study that is not available in any established curriculum of the University. Flexibility of curriculum and skills assists in preparing for a wide variety of careers to meet the challenges of the rapidly evolving world of the workplace.

### Programs

#### Majors


#### Minors


#### Certificates


### Courses

**IS-288 Cooperative Education Interdisciplinary Studies**
- Credits: 3
- Term Offered: All Terms
- Course Type(s): EX2
- Application of skills from two or three interdisciplinary study areas in a career-related position under faculty supervision. Students will work at least ten hours per week at an approved site and carry out academic assignments in coordination with their faculty sponsors.

**IS-290 Professional and Organizational Ethics**
- Credits: 3
- Prerequisites: EN-101 and EN-102 or permission of the instructor.
- Term Offered: All Terms
- Course Type(s): WT
- Ethical theory and its applications to interdisciplinary social issues. Examination of moral principles, basic to professional practice, organizational behavior, and public policy making.

**IS-388 Cooperative Education: Interdisciplinary Studies**
- Credits: 3
- Term Offered: All Terms
- Course Type(s): EX2
- Application of skills from two or three interdisciplinary study areas in a career-related position under faculty supervision. Students will work at least ten hours per week at an approved site and carry out academic assignments in coordination with their faculty sponsors.

**IS-401 Senior Integrative Thesis Proposal**
- Credits: 2
- Prerequisite: Senior standing in the major or permission of the department chair.
- Term Offered: All Terms
- Course Type(s): None
- Independent research guided by a chief advisor and second reader. Research should access the methods and materials of the chosen disciplines, focus on a specific problem or topic, and relate to a stated career ambition. Conventional library research, lab experiment component, survey, creative project, etc., are all acceptable.

**IS-402 Senior Integrative Thesis**
- Credits: 2
- Prerequisite: IS-401, passed with a grade of B or higher.
- Term Offered: All Terms
- Course Type(s): None
- Thesis based on research completed in IS-401. A thoroughly developed research project, which must integrate chosen disciplines, focus on a specific problem, and relate to a career objective.

### Faculty

**Oty Agbajoh-Laoye**, Associate Professor (Graduate Faculty).
Coordinator of Africana Studies. BA, MA, PhD, University of Ibadan, Nigeria. Specialty is African Diaspora (African-American and Afro-Caribbean literature in English) and African postcolonial literature. Additional interests and current research include Black women’s fiction and criticism, the slave narrative, and oral tradition.
olaoye@monmouth.edu

**Manuel Chavez**, Lecturer. BA, Truman State University; MA, PhD, Binghamton University – SUNY. Areas of interest include Latin American philosophy, Latino/a studies, pragmatism, and social and political philosophy. Current research interests include decolonial theory and ethics.
mchavez@monmouth.edu

**George J Gonzalez**, Assistant Professor. ThD, Harvard Divinity School. Dr. González teaches courses in religious studies, ethics, and philosophy. His research methodology, philosophical anthropology, is highly interdisciplinary and weaves together ethnography, philosophical inquiry, social science, and historiography in the service of intersubjective inquiry and anthropological ethics. Dr. González’s recent publications are in the area of religion and capitalism. His research interests include critical theory, postcolonial studies, Latino/a studies, gender and queer studies, religion and the professions, New Age religions, and post-secularism. Dr. González is also involved in interfaith initiatives both within and outside the University.
ggonzale@monmouth.edu

**Alan Schwerin**, Associate Professor. BA, MA, Rhodes University; PhD, Rice University Dr. Schwerin has research interests in David Hume’s philosophy of mind and Bertrand Russell’s epistemology.
aschweri@monmouth.edu
IS-410  Integrative Seminar for Elementary Education  Credits: 3
Prerequisites: Senior standing in the ISEE major and at least three courses in each of English, Social Sciences, and Science, as well as Mathematics 205, 206, 207, Educational Leadership 201, 206, 326, Education 250 and 320.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
This is a capstone seminar for students in the Interdisciplinary Studies for Elementary Educators major, to be taught jointly by a faculty member in one of the subject disciplines and a faculty member in the School of Education. Each semester a theme that can be approached from the perspectives of literature, social sciences, mathematics, and the physical or biological sciences will be chosen for the seminar. Class discussions will include how the material can be approached at different grade levels in elementary school. Sample semester topics include people and the environment, bullying, climate change, poverty, and urbanization.

PL-101  Introduction to Philosophy  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
A historico-critical inquiry into the nature of the philosophical enterprise; the meaning of existence; knowledge and truth; and values in their religious, ethical, and aesthetic significance.

PL-104  Ethics  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): SJL
Theoretical ethics and its application to enduring and contemporary moral issues. Thorough examination of the basic principles of a rational, humane, and practical moral system. Also listed as RS-104.

PL-106  Elementary Logic  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
A consideration of valid reasoning as it relates to language and definition. Primary attention is given to discerning and identifying informal fallacies, techniques for determining the validity of inference, and the evolution of symbolic systems. Recommended for students preparing to take the GRE or LSAT.

PL-198  Special Topics in Philosophy (100 Level)  Credits: 1-3
Prerequisite: As announced in the course schedule.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An intensive study of a particular subject or problem in philosophy to be announced prior to registration. May be conducted on either a lecture-discussion or a seminar basis.

PL-201  Philosophy of Religion  Credits: 3
Prerequisite: PL-101.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An examination of certain salient features of Western religious thought, emphasizing the problems of religious language, the nature and validity of religious experience, traditional and contemporary ideas of God, morality, death, and evil. Also listed as RS-201.

PL-202  Great Issues in World Philosophy  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An examination of great philosophical works from several cultural traditions. The course uses original works from Western, Indian, and Chinese civilizations to focus on philosophical approaches to a cluster of "great issues" while putting the philosophers and their works in historical context.

PL-202H  Great Issues in World Philosophy  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): HO
Critical investigation of some of the critical ideas and arguments that have been defended and promoted by thinkers in a variety of cultures. Open only to students in the Honors Program.

PL-203  Philosophy of Language  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Investigation of questions about the concepts of language, meaning, and understanding. Consideration of some of the major contributions on these and related concepts. Also listed as CO-203.

PL-204  Existentialism  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Existentialism is about what it means to be an individual who has to create a meaning for his or her own life. Establish the context for existentialism within the history of philosophy as a whole, but also consider the impact that existentialist ideas have generally had in literature, art, and culture.

PL-205  Ethics and Literature  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Explore the nature of ethical problems and theories through philosophy and literature.

PL-210  Philosophy in Film  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An introduction to philosophy using films in conjunction with traditional readings. Study some of the most important questions in the history of philosophy, such as: the nature of reality and its relationship to appearances, the nature of the self, human and artificial intelligence, the possibility of freedom, the nature of ethics, and the theory of meaning.

PL-211  Social and Political Philosophy  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Comparative study of the philosophical assumptions underlying significant Western conceptions of social order and community.
PL-216  Religions and Philosophies of India  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): BI.EL, CD, CC
Introduction to the fundamental elements of the orthodox and non-
orthodox philosophical and religious systems of India. Highlights plurality
of timeless distinct gnostic systems that, having discovered the "Self,"
search for liberation from the stream of time. Also listed as RS-216.

PL-222  Philosophy of Love and Friendship  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
A study of philosophical theories of love and friendship from the time of
classical Greece to the twentieth century.

PL-250  History of Philosophy I  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
The beginning of philosophical speculation in Ionia, its golden age in
Athens, the Roman interlude, and the flourish and decline of medieval
philosophy.

PL-260  Informal Logic  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): RD
An introduction to some of the most important principles of informal
logic. Topics include: concepts, classification, definitions, propositions,
argument structure, diagramming arguments, explanation, and fallacies.

PL-277  Comparative Religions  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): BI.EL, GU
Students are introduced to the fundamental differences and similarities
of world religions that, throughout history, were and are at war with
each other. Highlights a plurality of distinct creeds that, postulating an
Absolute Truth, search to regain that Ultimate Reality through various
ways of life or moral codes. Also listed as RS-277.

PL-298  Special Topics in Philosophy (200 Level)  Credits: 1-3
Prerequisite: As announced in the course schedule.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An intensive study of a particular subject or problem in philosophy to be
announced prior to registration. May be conducted on either a lecture-
discussion or a seminar basis.

PL-298H  Special Topics in Philosophy (200 Level)  Credits: 1-3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): HO
An intensive study of a particular subject or problem in philosophy to be
announced prior to registration. May be conducted on either a lecture-
discussion or a seminar basis. Only open to students in the Honors
Program.

PL-305  Philosophy of Art  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Place of beauty and art in human life; standards of taste and aesthetic
experience; classical and contemporary theories.

PL-307  American Philosophy  Credits: 3
Prerequisite: PL-101.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Classical and contemporary philosophical theories developed in the
United States by such philosophers as Jonathan Edwards, Emerson,
Royce, Santayana, James, Dewey, and Whitehead.

PL-309  Seminar in Plato  Credits: 3
Prerequisite: PL-101.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Against the background of pre-Socratic problems, the intensive study of
selected dialogues with emphasis upon Plato's lasting contributions to
Western philosophy.

PL-316  The Modern Mind: From Descartes to the Present  Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Three credits in Philosophy.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
A systematic study of the central theses of philosophers and
philosophical schools from early Continental Rationalism and British
Empiricism to the contemporary patterns of philosophical thought.

PL-324  American Political Thought  Credits: 3
Prerequisite: PS-101 or PS-103.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
The development of political thought in the United States with emphasis
on the late nineteenth- and twentieth-century philosophers and
statesmen, along with the development of ideology of groups in American
politics. Also listed as PS-324.

PL-340  Plato's Dialogues  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): RD
A critical study of Plato's dialogues, with a particular emphasis on the
role that reasoned oral discourse plays in these texts.

PL-350  Multicultural Ethics  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): CD, RE
A study of some of the most influential authors in the history of ethical
history, and also feminist and multicultural criticism of those classic
sources.

PL-360  Philosophy and Literature  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): RD
An exploration of the intersections of philosophy and literature with a
particular focus on questions concerning the nature of authorship and
moral authority.

PL-370  Multicultural Social and Political Philosophy  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): CD, RE
A study of some of the most influential authors in the history of social
and political philosophy, and also feminist and multicultural criticism of
those classic sources.

PL-398  Special Topics in Philosophy (300 Level)  Credits: 1-3
Prerequisite: As announced in the course schedule.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An intensive study of a particular subject or problem in philosophy to be
announced prior to registration. May be conducted on either a lecture-
discussion or a seminar basis.
PL-420 The Philosophy of Speech and Writing
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): RD
An investigation of several philosophical theories concerning the nature of speech and writing, and an exploration of how theories of speech and writing have affected both contemporary philosophy and contemporary culture.

PL-490 Seminar in Philosophy
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Approval of the philosophy faculty at the recommendation of the instructor.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Selected topics in which participating students present and discuss research papers.

PL-498 Special Topics in Philosophy (400 Level)
Credits: 1-3
Prerequisite: As announced in the course schedule.
Course Type(s): None
An intensive study of a particular subject or problem in philosophy to be announced prior to registration. May be conducted on either a lecture-discussion or a seminar basis.

PL-499 Individual Studies in Philosophy
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: Junior standing, twelve credits of Philosophy, prior permission of the directing professor and department chair.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Guided research on selected topics; conference with sponsoring professor.

PR-400 Love, Life, and Liberty
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
An examination of the historical and philosophical aspects of love and the assertion for freedom, starting from the biological concept of life. Throughout history, the various interpretations of these ideas have shaped the world. Students will be introduced to some of the most important, related works that are the fiber of History, Philosophy, and Science. The analysis of revered, cultural traditions will show the impact of love on the rational thinking and artistic creation. Also listed as RS-400.

PR-401 Perceptions
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): GS, ISP
An in-depth visual study dealing with the various ways that artists perceive the world around them as it relates to specific subject matter, aesthetics, and to cultural, historical, and psychological implications. Beauty and reality will be examined in all categories studied, with emphasis on the personal perceptions of the student.

PR-402 Witchcraft and Magic
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
The meanings, origins, and historical significance of beliefs in witchcraft and magic in Europe, America, and selected traditional societies. Includes the relationship between religion, magic, and witchcraft and the reasons for the decline in witchcraft beliefs. The disciplines represented include History and Anthropology.

PR-403 Roma/Gypsies in Literature, Pop Culture, and History
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Offers an interdisciplinary introduction to the people known as Gypsies (though the preferred term is Roma or Romani), whose ancestors left northern India by the Eleventh century, and who presently live dispersed in a world-wide diaspora. We will examine representations of Gypsies in world literature, pop culture, and history, and investigate this people’s position at the confluence of myth, metaphor, and reality. We will discuss the particulars of Roma’s history, including origins, migrations, experiences with slavery and the Holocaust, and their position within the New Europe. Special attention will be paid to the relation between historical and non-historical representations, and to the production of stereotypes and tropes associated with Gypsies/Roma.

PR-404 Ethnic Lives
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Institutional racism in America, its effect on intergroup relations, and the response of ethnic group members to it. Ethnicity in America is examined from a global perspective. Readings in Sociology and Literature.

PR-405 Toxic Wastes
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Examination of the nature of toxic wastes in New Jersey, how waste dumps are sited, the basic chemistry and toxicology of dump components, the impact on people and the environment, the development of public policy for control and cleanup of Superfund sites in New Jersey, and implications for the future and the world. The disciplines represented include Chemistry, Economics, and Political Science.

PR-406 The Individual and Society
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
The impact of two cultural ideologies; the influence of individualism and collectivism on individual thought and behavior, social interaction, societal values, and global order. The disciplines represented include Psychology, Ethics, Cultural Anthropology, and Sociology.

PR-407 Morality and Community
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): GS, ISP
Problems involved in making moral decisions in complex situations. Focuses on lying and deceit, deleterious effects on the life of the community, and also on clarifying codes of ethical behavior. The disciplines represented include Literature and Ethics.

PR-408 The Jewish Experience
Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
The impact of “modernity” upon the Jewish people and the religion of the Jews. Delineates the course of modern Jewish religious philosophy through an examination of its characteristic problems and varying approaches to their solutions. The perspectives stressed are History and Philosophy of Religion.
PR-409 Communicating with Computers Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
The historical development of computer communication, analysis of high-level languages, and educational functions of computer communication; related research and projects, together with computer lab demonstration.

PR-410 Architecture in History as Art and Technology Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ARHIS
An exploration of structure, symbolism, and social meaning in architecture from imperial Rome, medieval France, Renaissance Italy, and Europe and America in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The disciplines represented include Art and Technology.

PR-411 Gender and Global Culture Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): GS, ISP
Examines how gender influences cultural beliefs and practices around the world. Examines how gender shapes culture, particularly in ways that restrict and limit our lives. Uses an interdisciplinary approach to examine how gender and culture shape individual lives, as well as the larger global communities in which we live. Throughout the course, students will examine ethical and social issues concerning gender and culture.

PR-412 Education, Equality, and Elitism Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Tensions between equality and elitism in education; consideration of inequalities in educational systems, proposed remedies; historical models; accounts of issues of race, gender, and class; and critiques of American education in terms of its international competitiveness. Disciplines represented are Philosophy and Education, with supporting materials from Literature.

PR-413 Population Dynamics and a Sustainable Future Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): SUS
An exploration of the complex and interrelated issues of population dynamics, resource consumption, socioeconomic development, environmental protection, and global interdependence.

PR-414 Parent Child Socialization: A Cross-Cultural Approach Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An intensive, cross-cultural investigation of childhood socialization. Topics include: socialization, enculturation, sex-role socialization, and socialization processes in various cultures, such as China, Japan, Polynesia, and the United States. Disciplines represented include Psychology and Cultural Anthropology united through cross-cultural methods.

PR-415 Technology and Women's Lives Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): GS
The impact of modern technology in women's lives. The aspects to be examined in depth include technology and the workplace (employment), technology and the home (housework), and technology and reproduction (contraception, pregnancy, and infertility). The disciplines represented include Sociology and Ethics.

PR-416 Management and Liberal Arts Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Course Type(s): None
Exploration and comparison of the development and context through literature of real issues faced by managers in the public and private sectors.

PR-418 Eastern-Western Approaches to Wellness, Health, and Healing Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): HE.EL, HEPE, ISP
Exploration of how beliefs inherent in these traditions influence concepts of health and disease.

PR-419 Mathematics of Artistic Design Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Exploration of the mathematics that may be used to describe and create some artistic designs in architecture, sculptures, paintings, and other sources. Appropriate mathematical concepts from topology, number theory, symmetry groups, the geometries, and the calculi will be discussed and studied. Original, artistic designs will be created, employing mathematical concepts and computer software.

PR-420 Society and Technology of Information Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
The technology of communication systems and its impact on society's growth, with emphasis on the printing press, television, and the computer. The disciplines represented include Science, History, Economics, and Sociology.

PR-422 AIDS and the Global Society Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): HE.EL, HEPE, ISP, NU.EL
A global perspective of the HIV/AIDS pandemic using three major disciplinary approaches of biology, public health, and social anthropology. The impact of the disease on individuals, families, and communities in Western and non-Western countries; associated social, psychological, ethical, economic, and health issues are explored.

PR-423 Perspectives on Human Rights Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An interdisciplinary and cross-cultural exploration of the question of human rights. The disciplinary perspectives of Philosophy, Political Science, History, and Literature are used to examine the different dimensions of human rights in the world.
PR-424 Place, Identity, and Behavior  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
Integrates geography and psychology in order to examine the interrelationship of people with geographic places that are experienced directly through residence, work, and travel, and indirectly through media, family stories, and education.

PR-425 Critical Play: Theories and Aesthetics of Video Games  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
Critical examination of the role of video games and play toward the construction of cultural values, social structures, and identities. This interdisciplinary course studies the theories and aesthetics of video games by drawing from the fields that include, but are not limited to: Art History, Anthropology, and Sociology.

PR-426 Contemporary Issues in Free Speech  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
Global study of free speech that offers an interdisciplinary examination of the evolution of political and personal freedom. Examination of Western history, comparison of non-Western freedoms, and consideration of the philosophical arguments that have raged over centuries about the degree of freedom individuals should have.

PR-427 Ideas in the Art of Asian Civilization  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
An exploration of how ideas associated with Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto influenced and shaped painting, sculpture, architecture, and some minor arts in traditional India, China, and Japan.

PR-428 Children's Folklore  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
An investigation of the theoretical perspectives of development psychologists, anthropologists, and comparative historians. Working in the field of Literary Studies, students will learn to analyze children’s folklore with theoretical and methodological tools borrowed from the disciplines of anthropology, psychology, and comparative historical analysis. Topics include: rhymes, riddles, jokes, songs, lore, and other language use in American children and children from other cultural groups.

PR-429 Health and Healing Across Cultures  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
A cross-cultural examination of health and healing. Through lecture, discussion of the readings, case studies, and film presentations, students will explore the biological and sociocultural factors that affect health, illness, disease, and healing, both now and in the past. Students will also examine the impact of the healer and supernatural belief systems on the process of healing. In addition to the evaluation of the cultural health aspects of Africans, African-Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Haitians, and the Hmong, these populations will also be compared to the general American population in terms of overall health and access to health care.

PR-431 Popular Culture and Scientific Discourse  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
A study in the ideological influences of science on American society and culture, with a special emphasis on how scientific language is presented, packaged, and distorted for public consumption.

PR-432 Ethics and Professionalism in Science and Engineering  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
Provides a broad view of ethics and professionalism in the context of Science and Engineering. Teaches valuable practical skills, as well as the basic analytic tools required to make the ethical decisions confronted by professionals in any field. Describes the special role of professionals in society and uses the key perspectives of engineering and philosophy to explore their responsibilities. Additional perspectives, e.g., organizational psychology and law, will be incorporated as appropriate. A key course dynamic will be the interplay between producers and consumers of technology as common ethical dilemmas are approached from both viewpoints. The topics covered will include: problem solving in the context of ethics and codes of conduct, professional societies, working as a member of a team and international issues, as well as how to be a productive and contributing professional.

PR-433 Death and Dying  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): HE.EL, HEPE, ISP, NU.EL  
A study of attempts to understand the meaning of death and the cultural practices that surround death and dying. The disciplines represented include: bioethics, literature, and philosophy.

PR-434 Immigration and the United States  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
Traces the historical experience of immigrants in the U.S., examines their place in the stratification system, the forms of prejudice and discrimination they have encountered, and their patterns of assimilation into the larger society. The disciplines of History and Sociology are used to examine problems, including social and ethical issues, encountered by immigrants, United States citizens, and policy makers. Topics will include a historical examination of immigration policy, push/pull factors that influence immigration, and settlement patterns within the United States. Prepares students to identify immigration problems and research solutions.

PR-435 The Way and the Word: Hinduism  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
A comparison of classic texts central to two Asian traditions, The Bhagavad Gita and The Analects; the impact of the ethos of each tradition on secular narratives, Asian and Western. The disciplines represented include Comparative Religion and Literature. Also listed as RS-435.

PR-436 Urban Legends  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
An examination of urban legends from multiple perspectives.
PR-437 Perspectives on the Human Experiences: Family Violence

Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Designed as an interactive seminar course that engages students in interactive discussions and experiential exercises related to understanding and working with families who have experienced violence, including both survivors and perpetrators. The impact of culture on family violence across intergenerational family members (e.g., children, parents, and grandparents) and diverse populations and settings are thoroughly reviewed. Students learn a strengths-based empowerment approach and application of resiliency theory to assessment, prevention, intervention planning, and evaluation of individuals, families, and communities impacted by abuse and violence.

PR-438 Nature of the Self: East and West

Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
A comparative study of Asian and Western theories about the nature and definition of self using an interdisciplinary approach - philosophy, religion, and history.

PR-439 Interdisciplinary Perspective on Social Business

Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Micro-credit has become one of the most successful social business interventions in addressing poverty in the developing world. As a successful initiative, it is now traveling from the developing world to the developed world. Addresses the historical, philosophical, and theoretical underpinnings of social business, and will explore in an interdisciplinary approach the ethical and social issues related to social business. Social business, itself, is cross-disciplinary, providing a basis for working together, transcending our differences across disciplinary lines, and envisioning creating a world without poverty.

PR-440 Violent Crime

Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Nature and distribution of violent crime in American society and other nations; causal theories of violence and factors correlated with violence; relationship between gender and violent crime; policy strategies to reduce violent victimization. The disciplines represented include: Biology, Psychology, and Sociology.

PR-441 Countercultures in American History

Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Explores countercultures in the United States from multiple-disciplinary perspectives including history, literature, and sociology. Elements from philosophy and psychology will also be included. The course will show that the counterculture in the 1960's was just one historical manifestation of American historical movements that are anti-authoritarian and espouse personal and/or societal transformation/regeneration. By examining different groups, the course will show that countercultures have a legacy of change in American society.

PR-442 Modern Images, Irrational Thought

Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Philosophy from the time of Plato has been an evolution of ideas, one set replaced by another, in a dialogue that changes from what has become accepted as normal to an ever changing view derived from rational thought as it relates to the present and the projected future. As in Philosophy, Art has a cyclical evolution; 1) an initial intuitive leap of newness, 2) a refinement and loosely agreed upon normalcy and 3) a stage, for lack of better description, "Istic," where nothing new is brought about and contributors either branch out or embellish what they can't penetrate with a new leap. Through the two main disciplines of Art and Philosophy, the course will investigate changes in rationality in the late nineteenth Century and trace their movements and influences into the twenty-first.

PR-443 ESP, Yesterday and Today

Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
From the first Paleolithic Shaman to Madam Marie on the Boardwalk in the twenty-first Century, civilizations have been fascinated by visionaries, mediums, psychics, and those who claim to channel entities from alternative realities. Clairvoyance, Telepathy, Astral Projection, and Psychokinesis are all part of the hidden, or sixth sense referred to as Telesthesia. The idea has surfaced and influenced mankind from Egyptian Soothsayers, the Oracle of Delphi, Revelations in the Bible, Nostradamus, Madam Blavatsky, Edgar Cayce, and as recently as Jane Roberts in the late twentieth century and is taking modern form in the concept of The New Age. Through the main disciplines of History and Psychology, this course will investigate the ever-changing social attitudes and beliefs concerning Extra Sensory Perception from the cave dwellers to the modern carnival.

PR-444 Leadership, Public Health, and Higher Education

Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
The disciplines represented in this course are Education and Health Studies. Content focuses on problems, including social and ethical issues, encountered by leaders in Higher Education and Public Health. Topics will include leadership theories, practice, and evaluation. Prepares students to identify problems, research solutions, implement plans, and evaluate results that advance the mission of non-profit organizations committed to improving public health and institutions of Higher Education. Emphasis will be placed on issues involved in Higher Education and Public Health.
PR-445 Spike Lee and the Black Aesthetic in Perspective  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
An examination of race, gender, sexuality, and class in the cinematic representations developed by Spike Lee in connection with African-American aesthetic values. Spike Lee has been classified by many as the most important (and certainly most successful) African-American filmmaker in American history. The often controversial productions of Lee have been extensively examined by critics and scholars since his first film "She’s Gotta Have It" was released. This class will consider various "Spike Lee Joints" from multiple perspectives including history, communication studies, sociology, and gender studies. We will critically examine Lee's work within the broad historical framework of African-American cultural history and in terms of his engagement with controversial social, political, and economic issues in American society in these films. The Lee films will also be analyzed for the aestheticization of larger historical, cultural, and social aspects of U.S. society. The two main disciplines utilized in the course include history and communication studies.

PR-446 The Confessional Poets: Surviving Madness  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
An exploration of the works of key figures in the confessional style of contemporary American poetry. These poets suffered multiple levels of mental anguish and used confessional poetry to share and heal their suffering, as they attempted to survive their lives.

PR-447 A Graphic World: Sequential Art and World History  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
An interdisciplinary course that will use the perspectives of historical, literary, and artistic analysis to examine important themes such as, but not limited to, nationalism, inequality, industrialization, war, religion, or cultural diffusion, through the medium of the graphic novel.

PR-448 Ecocriticism and Medieval England  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
An ecocritical study of historical documents and literary texts in medieval England.

PR-449 The Helping Professions in Film and Media  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
Provides students an opportunity to look at ethical and social issues from a multidisciplinary perspective. Looks at the helping professions (for example: teachers, counselors, and medical professions), how the codes of ethics for these professions are similar but different, and how these professions have been villainized and romanticized in film.

PR-450 Propaganda in America  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
An analytic study of persuasive texts central to the development of American values and attitudes. Advertisements, tracts, and fiction will be placed in their historic, international, and intellectual contexts. The disciplines represented include rhetoric and literature.

PR-451 Ethnic and Religious Conflicts and Their Political Implications  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
Examines the relationship between ethnicity, nationalism and violence. Focus will be on the formation and the causes that ignite ethnic conflicts. Discussion of the political tools and strategies to manage them as well as the role of international communities in preventing and resolving these conflicts. To understand the international implications of the ethnic conflict we shall examine examples from around the world but we shall focus mainly on five cases: Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Ireland, Russia, and Palestine.

PR-452 Understanding and Producing Theatre And Its Role in Modern Society  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
Designed to allow students to examine Theatre in intense and very specific ways using and examining the literature and visual arts aspects of theatre. The course content will focus on the Summer season of the Shadow Lawn Stage or an appropriate selection of plays during the academic year. Students will not only discuss in class the plays being performed, but will also have the experience of watching them being designed, constructed, and rehearsed.

PR-453 Censoring Culture: Banned and Burned in the USA  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
An interdisciplinary study of censorship in modern America. Utilizing the combined methodologies of history and literary criticism, broadly construed to include feminist and cultural theory, it will explore specific instances of censorship in art, literature and history in twentieth- and twenty-first-century American culture. It will focus on the "reading" of censored texts, novels, paintings, photographs, newspapers and film as cultural artifacts and probe the nuances and boundaries of freedom of speech and expression in a democratic society.

PR-454 Word and Image  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
Explores the relationship between the two basic modes of representation in our culture - words and pictures. The interaction between the two will be investigated historically and theoretically through a close examination of a variety of media, from books and posters to comics and Web sites. Emphasis is on the power of word-image representations to define social and ethical concerns and also shape our lives, as well as on the beauty of some works of "composite art" created by poets and artists, from William Blake to Art Spiegelman.

PR-455 Right Wing Extremism in Europe  Credits: 3  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): ISP  
Presents a comparative analysis of several far-right organizations in Western Europe as well as the characteristics of the right wing extremism in Eastern Europe. The course will identify the causes that led to the popularity of these groups, sub-culture of the skin-heads and the neo-Nazi and the attitude of the far right groups in Eastern Europe towards the Roma population. We shall also analyze their consequences for the political stability and democracy in the European Union.
PR-457  Issues in Cognitive Science  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Focuses on a number of key ideas about mental representations (e.g., logic, rules, concepts, and analogies) and contrasts how work in psychology (e.g., building computational models) helps us to evaluate their suitability as models of the human mind and of the nature of intelligence in general. Cognitive Science is an inherently interdisciplinary approach to the study of the mind and intelligence, drawing upon work in philosophy, psychology, artificial intelligence, neuroscience, linguistics and anthropology. The course will touch on many of these areas, but the focus is work in the disciplines of psychology and artificial intelligence. The course will also cover the ethical implications of work in cognitive science.

PR-458  The Meaning of Meaning  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Focuses on the various perspectives about meaning that have developed in the philosophico-literature and their applications to actual language use as uncovered by linguists and anthropologists. Efforts to understand the meaning of meaning have been carried out in a variety of disciplines; philosophy, psychology, literary studies, artificial intelligence, linguistics and anthropology. Although the course will touch on many of these areas, the focus is on the work in the disciplines of philosophy, linguistics, and anthropology. The course will also cover the social and ethical implications of the different approaches to the meaning of meaning.

PR-459  The Science and Politics of Climate Change  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP, SUS
Earth's climate has changed in the past and will change in the future; however, current climate science describes a rate of climate change expected in the next hundred years that is similar to those experienced during mass extinctions in the past. This rate of change implies emergency conditions for most living creatures including man, and a need for urgent action if human caused contributions to climate change are to be stopped or slowed. This course will examine the science and politics of climate change with an emphasis on understanding the physical science behind climate change, the biological impacts of changing climate in a variety of biomes, suggested political and physical remediation and the political consequences of suggested remediation. This course will also examine the actions of certain lobbyists, political parties, and multinational corporations and their impacts on the politics of climate change.

PR-460  How Technology Affects Values  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
The correlation of values to technology; conceptualization of the interrelationships among science, technology, values, and society. Preparing to understand technical innovation, the impact of technical innovations on the quality of life, and the need for critical evaluation of societal matters involving the consequences of technology. The disciplines represented include History and Sociology.

PR-461  The Great Recession and its Effect on Society  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
The Great Recession officially began in December 2007 and ended in June 2009. The severity and extended duration of the second biggest economic downturn in history have inflicted long-lasting damage on individuals, families, and communities. This course will explore the historical sequence of events, similarities with the Great Depression, business and government decisions, and the theoretical underpinnings culminating in the Great Recession. Emphasis is given to the evaluation of the aftermath - the severe adverse effect on society! The course explores economics, decision-making, ethics, political and social issues - knowledge essential to the intellectual development of future leaders.

PR-470  War and Peace  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
An exploration of the forces leading toward war and peace in our century. Through literature, history, and sociology, the course looks at the dynamics of the two world wars, the development and use of nuclear weapons and the subsequent arms race, and rapidly evolving, current situations, such as the dissolution of the Soviet Union, tensions in the Middle East, and the role of the United States in the "New World Order."

The disciplines represented in the course include Literature, History, and Sociology.

PR-471  The Historical Novel  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Explores the history of the historical novel from Sir Walter Scott to the present and the impact that historical novels have on the way in which we perceive the past. Students will examine the ways in which the authors of historical novels are influenced by the times in which they are writing and the dynamic relationship between the times of the author and the historical period about which he or she is writing. The course will also trace developments in both history and literature that have contributed to the evolution of the historical novel in the past two centuries.

PR-472  Management Lessons Through the Arts and Literature  
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Bridges business management with the arts and literature. Students will explore the link between management practices and some of the great works of literature, theatre, poetry, music, art, architecture, photography, film, and television.
PR-473 Twentieth Century Psychoanalysis Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Psychoanalysis has been one of the most influential and controversial traditions in 20th century and contemporary thought. What began as a method for healing psychic neuroses in suffering patients has developed into a philosophical paradigm for conceptualizing the human condition. Ironically banished from a meaningful place in psychology departments, psychoanalysis has found willing disciples in literature, sociology, philosophy and mostly left-wing politics. Yet, psychoanalysis has been adopted as an interpretative framework by both rightists and leftists, by conservatives and liberals alike. The interdisciplinary nature of psychoanalysis makes it fruitful for a humanities-oriented perspective course. This class concentrates on the intersection of psychoanalysis with literature and philosophy. It seeks to study the cultural and social significance of psychoanalysis through the material impact of literature and philosophy.

PR-480 The Spiritual Experience (In Literature and Philosophy) Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Selected writings of religious literature and philosophy, including poetry, spiritual autobiography, meditations, and works of devotion and mysticism in the light of the cultural moment that produced them. Writings of both East and West, of men and women, and of varied cultures and historical eras. The disciplines represented include literature and philosophy.

PR-490 Revolution and Creative Response Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Revolution and Creative Response will study three revolutions: the Industrial Revolution, the Soviet Revolution, and the South African Revolution - the historical conditions, the critical events, and the central people. It will then analyze how certain artists responded or reacted to these. Combines elements of history and textual analysis (the methods used in the study of literature or film).

PR-495 Coping with Conflict Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Approaches to coping with conflict, drawn from the perspectives of law (focusing on negotiation and mediation) and of social psychology (focusing on processes of escalation, de-escalation, and settlement). Students will integrate these perspectives by devising strategies for dispute resolution in settings, such as the home, university, and the work place. The disciplines represented include law and social psychology.

PR-496 Plant Biotechnology and Society Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Students will learn and understand the principles of modern food production, with emphasis on plant biotechnology and ethics of genetically modified (GM) foods. In addition, the needs of a growing world population and economical, sociological, and demographical aspects associated with present food production will be addressed. Presents an integrated view of plant biotechnology and its effects on society. The objective is to help students be able to better understand and evaluate the potential of GM foods in both developed and developing countries and to address the ethical questions of modern agriculture.

PR-498 Special Topics in Perspectives (400 Level) Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An intensive study of a particular subject or problem in perspectives to be announced prior to registration.

PR-499 Independent Study in Perspectives Credits: 1-3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Guided research and in-depth study of a selected topic under the direction of a faculty member.

RS-101 Introduction to Religious Studies Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): CD
Introduction to the study of religion. Emphasis on the cultural history of the study of religion, classical theories and methods in the study of religion, and contemporary conversations and issues in the study of religion. Readings drawn from anthropology, sociology, history, political theory, psychology, economics, and the biological sciences.

RS-104 Ethics Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Theoretical ethics and its application to enduring and contemporary moral issues. Thorough examination of the basic principles of a rational, humane, and practical moral system. Also listed as PL-104.

RS-201 Philosophy of Religion Credits: 3
Prerequisite: PL-101.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
An examination of certain salient features of Western religious thought emphasizing the problems of religious language, the nature and validity of religious experience, traditional and contemporary ideas of God, morality, death, and evil. Also listed as PL-201.

RS-203 Philosophy and History of Christianity I Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Survey the development of Christianity in the Middle East and Europe and its continued expansion from the first to the fifteenth century. Focus on selected literature and most significant historical events in the development of Christianity. Highlights some of the institutions and people that came out of this movement and how they helped to shape the philosophical, religious, political, economic, and social realities of their day.
RS-216  Religions and Philosophies of India  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): BI.EL, CD, RE
Introduction to the fundamental elements of the orthodox and non-orthodox philosophical and religious systems of India. Highlights plurality of timeless, distinct gnostic systems that, having discovered the "Self," search for liberation from the stream of time. Also listed as PL-216.

RS-272  Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion  Credits: 3
Prerequisites: EN-101 and EN-102 or permission of the instructor.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): WT
Explores the motivation of human behavior within the realm of religion and the supernatural with an emphasis on the role of gods and goddesses. A cross-cultural approach will be used while exploring cultures both past and present across the globe. Also listed as AN-272.

RS-277  Comparative Religions  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): BI.EL, GU, RE
Students are introduced to the fundamental differences and similarities of world religions that, throughout history, were and are at war with each other. Highlights a plurality of distinct creeds that, postulating an Absolute Truth, search to regain that Ultimate Reality through various ways of life or moral codes. Also listed as PL-277.

RS-298  Special Topics in Religion  Credits: 1-3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Exposition and discussion of a current event or an enduring human concern with religious significance.

RS-375  Islam and Politics  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): RE
Examination of the interrelationship between Islam as a religion and a way of life and politics in different regions of the world. Following a quick survey of the belief and practice of Islam since its inception, the focus will be placed on the past 100 years, particularly the Muslim responses to the challenges of colonialism, modernization, and globalization and Islam's reassertion in public affairs and society. Concludes with ways for improving Islam-West relations in the hope that these will generate better understanding and peace. Also listed as PS-375.

RS-400  Love, Life, and Liberty  Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
Examination of the historical and philosophical aspects of love and the assertion for freedom starting from the biological concept of life. Throughout history, the various interpretations of these ideas have shaped the world. Students will be introduced to some of the most important related works that are the fiber of history, philosophy, and science. The analysis of revered cultural traditions will show the impact of love on the rational thinking and artistic creation. Also listed as PR-400.

RS-435  The Way and the Word  Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Completion of eighty-seven credits.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): ISP
A comparison of classic texts central to two Asian traditions, The Bhagavad Gita and The Analects; the impact of the ethos of each tradition on secular narratives, Asian and Western. The disciplines represented include Comparative Religion and Literature. Also listed as PR-435.

RS-436  The Reformation  Credits: 3
Prerequisite: Junior standing or twelve credits in History.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): HSEU
A study of sixteenth and early seventeenth-century religious and political developments in Europe: causes of the Reformation, its political and social institutionalization, ideas of reformers, wars of religion, and the Counter-Reformation. Also listed as HS-436.

RS-499  Independent Study in Religious Studies  Credits: 3
Prerequisites: Junior standing and prior permission of the directing professor and department chair.
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Guided research on selected topics; conference with sponsoring professor.