

HON 290 Seminars: Spring 2019

HON 291: Aesthetic and Humanistic Inquiry

HON 291: Comics and Other Intermedia

Over the past few decades, comic books have finally started to get noticed in the United States as a legitimate form of artistic expression. Outside of the US, comics have been both popular and respected for many years, and even before the modern comic book was created, forms of writing mixing with images were being created that would influence subsequent generations of popular culture. This course will survey the history of comic books and associated forms of visual and textual art (such as concrete poetry and Japanese ukiyo-e prints) and encourage students to create their own text/image works.

HON 291: Fierce Food in the Arts: A Journey Through Humanity's Use of Food as a Creative Medium

Humans need food to live, yet we do not always associate food with mere survival. In this course, we will examine ways food is used as a medium for communication and creative expression. Renaissance still-life food paintings convey status and wealth. Food writing uses elaborate descriptions to make a reader's mouth water (or stomach churn). Food in literature and film connects us to characters, cultures, and memories. Food is hilarious as a device for comedians or songwriters, or it inspires self-examination and change in documentaries. Food is even weaponized in a food fight. We will explore artistic works, writing, film, fashion, and music about food, including music using food as instruments. We will even work with food to express ourselves!

HON 291: Performance: Life, Art, Action

Students in this course will explore a wide variety of creative writing and performance-based art forms and media, including play scripts, improvisation, choreography, happenings, devised works, film and video, stand-up comedy, poetry reading, dance, opera, monologues, installations, musical performances, theater, and other acts of collaboration. We will explore the history and intersections of these performative genres while endeavoring to create our own pieces as individuals and groups.

HON 291: Romance versus Romance

The medieval tales of King Arthur, Queen Guinevere, and Sir Lancelot established the genre of courtly love that continues to influence traditional perceptions of love and romance to this day. This course will explore the development of the Romances of the so-called Matter of Britain and its influence on contemporary popular culture and romantic traditions and ideals.

HON 291: Wild Writers, Writing Outdoors

In this course we will discover the magic of nature writing, why writers do nature writing, and the magic of writing outdoors about place. We will analyze the elements that make good nature writing and attempt to emulate what we have learned by writing about place and writing in the outdoors.

HON 291: Harry Potter and the Muggle World

This course focuses on gaining a greater understanding of Harry Potter as literary and cultural phenomena. This course studies the critical discourse that has emerged over the last decade or so as it relates to the novels and other cultural and artistic manifestations. This series is explored in terms of its broader social and political implications.

HON 292: Cultural Understanding

HON 292: Global Popular Culture

This course examines popular culture from a global perspective. How is popular culture defined globally? What are the economic, political, and social forces that shape and influence popular culture around the globe? In answering these questions, this course employs anthropology, sociology, and cultural theory to address global popular culture from a critical and theoretical perspective. Although geographical regions and nations will contribute to our investigation of global popular culture, this course is organized around specific themes. These themes include the impact of politics on popular culture, the influence of globalization on popular culture worldwide, the importance of race, class, religion, and gender to unders

HON 293: Food Fight

In this class we will examine metabolic disorder and the role of added sugar in the diet. In his book (2013) Robert Lustig examines the role biology plays in our eating habits and health. We will also read by Michael Moss (2013), about the uphill battle we face as consumers to make healthy food choices. Finally, we will read

HON 293: The Mystery of the Brain

Who, really, is in control of our decisions, behavior and emotions? Is it our logic or our instinct (the more developed part or

