AUTUMN QUARTER

HON 350: Mediocrity, Boredom, and Failure: The Uses and Abuses of Irony, M. Girson – LPC TTH 4:20-5:50
Historically, irony has been used as a sharp critical tool to cut through negative situations, expose flaws, and comment on crises. Today, the privileged place that irony holds in our culture allows it to parade as sophisticated discourse without critical content. Through readings, discussion, and field trips, students will explore irony as a literary device, philosophical model, and historical form.

This course will analyze the role of organizing story and religious worldview in general, and a Roman Catholic worldview in particular, in the era of sustainability. Students will analyze claims of human flourishing and sustainable prosperity from the three-pillar perspective of sustainability literature – social justice, economic viability, and environmental stewardship. The course will use systems thinking to evaluate the economic, social, organizational, and personal contexts of promoting human flourishing in a finite ecology.

HON 351: Community Service – Altruism to Activism, N. Grossman – LPC MW 11:20-12:50
This is a class about action and reflection, and about coming to terms with one’s responsibilities to community. This course will consider the theory and practice of service and the relationship between altruism and activism. During the quarter, students will engage in service to learn about and from others, and to consider the role that service will play in their life after DePaul. Outside of class, students will devote a minimum of three hours each week to service work at one of the sites offered through this course. (This course fulfills the university requirement for Experiential Learning.)

WINTER QUARTER

HON 350: War, Memory and Imagination: The Great War and Beyond, G. Beiriger – LPC TTH 11:20-12:50
This course explores how we remember, memorialize, and imagine war in general, and WWI in particular. Course topics include our means of memorialization or heroicizing, and whether those practices honor the dead or glorify war and violence. Students will explore works in fields such as philosophy, neuroscience, social psychology, sociology, anthropology, history, and literature as they examine the interplay of memory and imagination in the context of war.
WINTER QUARTER, continued

HON 350: The Atomic Age, Y. Miyamoto – LPC MW 11:20-12:50
This course explores the intersection between disaster and culture – the way in which an incident of disaster is represented through literature, fictive narratives, and documentaries. We will also examine how such representations constitute memory and shape group (national, ethnic, familial) identity. This investigation of disaster and culture is centered upon our time of atomic age, and offers historical information and theoretical framework to prepare students to explore individual topics related to the field of study.

HON 350: Freedom and Time, P. Steeves – LPC T 6:00-9:15
Using an interdisciplinary approach ranging from literature to physics, from history to philosophy, this course will examine selected ways in which the topic of freedom plays a role in our daily lives and makes its presence felt in the history of western thought, especially in terms of the free will debate as it is shaped by science. Moving from religious questions concerning an all-knowing God's seeming incapability with human freedom, to the initial rise of determinism in Enlightenment science, and finally to the dual 20th century revolutions of Einsteinian relativity and quantum theory that made alternatives to determinism possible, the course will focus on the senses in which our understanding of time, causality, and the natural world have ultimately shaped our understanding of our own freedom in that world.

SPRING QUARTER

HON 350: Dreams and Dreamers, M. Larrabee – LPC TTH 11:20-12:50
Drawing on multiple disciplines, this course will explore dreams and dream interpretation through intellectual theories and an experiential method rooted in individual experience. Students will formulate theories of dreaming and question the nature of dreams and dreamers while studying the differing results of dream interpretation.

HON 351: Community Service – Altruism to Activism, C. Strain – LPC MW 11:20-12:50
Please see autumn quarter description.