

DEPAUL

University Honors Program
2016-2017 (Offerings subject to change)

Honors Senior Seminar

AUTUMN QUARTER

HON 350: War, Memory and Imagination: The Great War and Beyond, G. Beiriger – LPC TTH 1:00-2:30

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.

HON 351: Community Service – Altruism to Activism, N. Grossman – LPC W 6:00-9:15

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: Phenomenology and Painting, P. Steeves and M. Girson – LPC T 6:00-9:15

Through a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach, this team-taught course will focus on the way in which painting comes to meaning, informed by such disciplines as history, critical theory, and philosophy. Students will receive a grounding in the phenomenological tradition, and apply those tools to specific objects of aesthetic experience. Students will spend half of their class time in the studio making paintings and learning how to handle paint and painting tools, and half of their time reading and discussing philosophical texts.

HON 350: Forgiveness and Reconciliation, F. Furman – LPC MW 1:00-2:30

This course explores various understandings of "forgiveness" and "reconciliation" in several religions and cultures. The nature and dynamics of forgiveness and reconciliation will be examined, both theoretically and in relationship to personal and collective conflicts.

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.

SPRING QUARTER

HON 350: American Literature and the Environment, J. Fairhall – LPC TTH 11:20-12:50

This course examines American attitudes toward nature from pre-Columbian times to today. Students will discuss concepts such as nature, culture, wilderness, ecology, and biodiversity as they look at the relationship between cities and nature. Weekly discussions will focus on key environmental topics, and readings will include literary fiction and nonfiction including socioeconomic and environmental history. Required field trips will include an urban nature walk, a hike along the Chicago River, and a visit to the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum.

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.

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

The course will explore a number of movements for social change and will compare them with the types of action that students engage in at their service sites. Students will examine altruism through a variety of disciplinary frameworks including neurological, biological, psychological, and humanistic. As a result of service and reflection, students will consider what forms altruism and activism might take in their lives after DePaul, particularly in conjunction with the choice and pursuit of a career. *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.)

8/2/16