

Honors Senior Seminar

University Honors Program 2017-2018 (Offerings subject to change)

AUTUMN QUARTER

HON 350: History, Culture, and Politics of Food: Italy and Beyond, C. Mongiat Farina – LPC TTH 11:20-12:50

How does food contribute to a community's national, regional, and local identities? How does gender impact power and labor in domestic and professional kitchens? What does food represent for an artist, a writer, or a political activist? In this course, we will attempt to answer these and other questions by exploring the modern and contemporary history of Italian food in Italy and the United States, and reflecting on the material, symbolic, and political implications of this global commodity. Through a variety of primary sources, both textual and visual, and multidisciplinary critical sources, students will discuss the symbolic and material forces that shaped access to food from Italy's Unification to the present; food choices in Italy and the US between tradition and innovation; and the production, marketing, preparation, and consumption of meals.

HON 351: Community Service – Altruism to Activism, N. Grossman – LPC MW 1:00-2:30

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: 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.

WINTER QUARTER, (cont.)

HON 350: Phenomenology and Painting, P. Steeves and M. Girson – LPC TU 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: 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 MW 2:40-4:10

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: International Terrorism, T. Mockaitis – LPC TTH 1:00-2:30 (hybrid format: 70% classroom, 30% online)

This interdisciplinary seminar examines terrorism (domestic and international) from a variety of perspectives. Following an historical overview of the phenomenon, students will examine terrorist groups and organizations, tactics, incidents, and ideologies as well as strategies to combat the threat. They will complete a research project examining the subject from the perspective of their particular disciplines and to share their work with the seminar.

HON 351: Community Service – Altruism to Activism, C. Strain – LPC TTH 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.)