



University Honors Program  
2019-2020 (Offerings subject to change)

## Honors Senior Seminar

### 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 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 351: Community Service – Altruism to Activism**, N. Grossman – LPC MW 2:40-4:10

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: 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.

## **WINTER QUARTER (cont.)**

**HON 351: Community Service – Paths To And Away From Incarceration**, N. Barker – MW 11:20-12:50.

This course will explore the beginnings of mass incarceration in America, as well as the current crisis in criminal justice. Students will complete three hours per week of service to an organization which works to keep people at risk of prison from incarceration, and people who have been incarcerated from returning to the prison system. In the classroom students will discuss issues surrounding mass incarceration while reflecting on their service experience. (This course fulfills the university requirement for Experiential Learning.)

## **SPRING QUARTER**

**HON 350: International Terrorism**, T. Mockaitis – LPC MW 11:20-12:50 (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 350: Language and Community**, J. Schneider – LPC MW 1:00-2:30

In this course students will explore the relationship between language and community by reading texts from the fields of sociolinguistics, literacy studies, and linguistic anthropology. Through this work, students will develop a rich understanding of how communities—including social, professional, and academic communities—develop unique linguistic practices in order to build identity, create solidarity, and define group membership. For the final project, students will carry out first-hand research on the linguistic practices of a community of their choice and then present that research in an online portfolio.

**HON 350: Wicked Problems and Multidisciplinary Strategic Thinking: Urban Violence**

N. Grossman, and Deans from all DePaul colleges – LPC W 6:00-9:15

This course seeks to promote the awareness, understanding, and practice of multidisciplinary strategic thinking (including critical thinking, systems thinking, and design thinking) in addressing *wicked problems*. When a problem's multidisciplinary complexity is both systemic and fluid, it is known as a "wicked problem." Because of complex interdependencies, the particular disciplinary perspective used to solve one aspect of the problem may reveal or even create other problems. Academia has long recognized the need for practicing and teaching multidisciplinary collaboration, but the traditional structure of academic disciplinary silos has challenged our progress in attaining that goal. This course is a tangible effort in addressing that challenge by bringing all of our academic deans to address, in interaction with honors students, the wicked problem of urban violence from their individual perspectives in pursuit of multidisciplinary strategic solutions.