

University Honors Program
2020-2021 (Offerings subject to change)

AUTUMN QUARTER

American Pluralism and the War on Terrorism, D. Kamin – LPC TTH 11:20-12:50

This course will examine how the War on Terrorism that has been waging since September 2001, has affected our multicultural society. We will explore the circumstances that led us into this war, the policies of our government, and the reaction of the American people overall, as well as the reaction of distinct ethnic, racial, and religious communities in the U.S. We will follow these reactions as they have continued to develop over the past 18 years, especially as America's War on Terror has taken on new enemies and objectives worldwide. We will consider the diverse perspectives of various communities within America's pluralistic culture on the rationale for--and conduct of--the War on Terror in order to better understand and appreciate similarities and differences between distinct sub-groups in American society.

Globalization and Immigration, J. Schneider – LPC – MW 1:00-2:30

Globalization and immigration are topics of ongoing public discussion and debate. In this course, students will explore these topics from various points of view, highlighting their interrelatedness. In addition to encountering academic perspectives, students will look at how globalization and immigration connect to everyday life, and especially everyday life in Chicago, a self-proclaimed "global city" and a long-standing "city of immigrants." Through readings, discussions, writings, and other projects, students will develop a deeper understanding of how globalization and immigration connect to pressing contemporary questions on the nature of equality, rights, citizenship, and multicultural society.

LGBTQ Writers of Color, F. Royster – TTH 4:20-5:50

In this course students will explore the rich literary tradition of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer writers of color, including the novels, poems, short stories, creative non-fiction, and critical essays of Gloria Anzaldua, Kay Barrett, James Baldwin, Sharon Bridgforth, Mia Mingus, Audre Lorde, Achy Obejas, and Justin Torres. Using the framework of interlocking identities of race, sexuality, and gender, students will consider the ways that literature has become a powerful tool of critique, community building, survival, the expression of freedom and self-knowledge. Students can expect to explore how and who people love and what else is involved in the concepts of sexuality and sexual identity. They will examine how and why sexuality has been split from other aspects of who we are, including race, and how invisible bodies and erased voices can be heard.

WINTER QUARTER

Crossing Borders: Identity and the Nation, C. Goffman – LPC TTH 2:40-4:10

This course invites students to consider the concept of "places," not as static locations, but as dynamic sites of intersections of individuals, groups, and cultures, brought about by events, change, exploration, war, commerce, colonialism, imperialism, and globalization. An important aspect of this discussion will be the concept of "colonization," political, economic, and cultural. Using fiction, memoirs, and primary documents, we will consider how individuals cross literal and figurative "borders" in post-colonial nations (India/Pakistan) and in locales not usually seen as "colonized" (Ottoman Empire, Turkey, and China).

WINTER QUARTER (cont.)

Multiculturalism Challenge in post-1945 Europe, J. Woesthoff – LPC TTH 9:40-11:10

This course illuminates the history of multiculturalism in post-World War II Europe from two different angles. We will look at both the historical developments connected to multiculturalism as well as the ways in which scholars have made sense of them. Students will explore such issues as the legacies of fascism and post-war occupation, colonialism and post-colonialism, national identity, citizenship, issues of gender equality and sexuality, and religion.

Mixed Race Art and Identity, L. Kina – LPC – MW 11:20-12:50

Using the visual arts and cultural studies, this course will critically examine images of miscegenation and mixed race and post-ethnoracial identity constructs. Students will learn about the history and emergence of the multiracial movement and will reflect upon our present moment and the increasingly ethnically ambiguous generation that has been dubbed “Generation Mix.”

SPRING QUARTER

Ethics of Globalization and Development, M. Edwards – LPC MW 1:00-2:30

This course will focus on the ethical issues generated by the political and economic relations that exist among the countries of the developed world and the developing world, examining such topics as value systems in conflict; human rights and social justice; economics of globalization; environmental change and population growth; and peace and security.

Identity, Race and Gender, M. Larrabee – LPC TTH 9:40-11:10

Students will explore the issues of identity, including the impact of gender, race and ethnicity, nationality, religion, sexuality, and the cultural politics that influence all of these. The course will move from a strong experiential focus to a study of the theories concerning identities and racialized groups, addressing the ways in which we all live as implicit theorists within our cultures.

Domestic Adventures: Race, Gender, and the Cosmopolitan Identity, J. Chung – LPC TTH 11:20-12:50

This course introduces students to changing ideals about relations with nonwestern civilizations at the turn of the twentieth century as innovations in economics and transportation and communication technologies began to proliferate. We will focus on the popularity among middle-class women of orientalism (representations of Asian peoples and cultures in the arts) and evolving views about otherness and race when these women sought such arts to escape the confines of the home and move beyond the limited travel opportunities available to them. We will use contemporary fiction, paintings and popular magazine illustrations, and theatrical performances along with postcolonial and gender theory to consider the ways these increasingly global contacts at the beginning of the twentieth century shaped interfaces between personal and public identities with each other.

Silk Road Migrations, K. Ibata-Arens – LPC W 6:00-9:15

This class will introduce students to the history of “Silk Road” migrations through interactive research with Asian art and artifacts from the collection of the Art Institute of Chicago (AIC). Key concepts in multiculturalism such as the “other” and “othering,” race, racism, (cultural) identity, nation, and nationalism will be explored. Students will work in project-based teams and gain unique experiential learning, using specific art objects as lens to explore broader issues in transnationalism, migration, and immigration.