

*"Small minds discuss people, Average minds discuss places,  
Great minds discuss ideas"  
—Eleanor Roosevelt*



**HONORS CLASSES  
FALL 2016**

**Anthropology 112** / TR 12:30 - 1:50 (Wiewall) 74988

**Art 101** / TR 9:30 - 10:50 (Agahari) 74713

**Astronomy 101** / MW 8:00 - 9:20 (McGovern) 70151

**Communication Studies 101** / Monday 7:00 - 10:00 pm (Reed) 73600

**Economics 102** / MW 2:15 - 3:35 (Ganley) 76300

**English 101** / Tuesday 7:00 - 10:00 pm (Oliveira) 71751

**English 103** / TR 11:00 - 12:20 (Koritsoglou) 74913

**English 259** / Wednesday 7:00 - 10:00 pm (Hoffer) 76249

**Geology 101** / Thursday 3:45 - 6:50 (Burd) 74399

**History 108** / Friday 8:00 - 11:00 (Guillen) 75829

**Math 115** / MWF 1:00 - 12:20 (Villapando) 76082

**Music 101** / TR 2:15 - 3:35 (Fewtrell) 76229

**Political Science 101** / MW 9:30 - 10:50 (Vento) 73078

**Psychology 212** / Monday 3:45 - 6:50 (Aviles) 74132

**Sociology 101** / Thursday 7:00 - 10:00 pm (Andrada) 73416

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## HONORS CLASSES FALL 2016

### **Anthropology 112                      TR                      12:30 pm - 1:50 pm                      (Wiewall)                      CRN 74988**

Did you know that in North America, prior to European contact, there were over 4 million native peoples organized into 500 different culture groups, speaking a total of over 400 different languages? Ever wonder how realistic a movie like *Dances with Wolves* is? We'll draw on anthropology, indigenous histories, and European records as we investigate questions of origins, cultural spread and development, diversification, the impacts of historic period of contact and conquest, and contemporary issues that are of concern to native peoples. We will depart from the traditional classroom format to enjoy a seminar-structured environment. In addition, students will obtain first-hand experience about native cultures via guest speakers and Native American cultural events.

### **Art 101                                      TR                                      9.30 am - 10.50 am                                      (Agahari)                                      CRN 74713**

What do *300* and *Clash of the Titans*, Luxor Hotel and Citadel Outlet Mall have in common? They are all based on ancient Greek, Egyptian, and Assyrian art. Hollywood, Las Vegas, and Disney relied on images from the past to fuel their visual commercial enterprises. In Art 101 Honors we will have the opportunity to examine ancient art works and their broader artistic, ethical, political, technological, and museological implications in contemporary society. For example, we will discuss how the current war in Iraq affects art from the first civilization in the world and study the ongoing debates on the "Elgin Marbles." Who said ancient art is collecting dust in museums? These forms are reanimated, alive and well within our visual culture. NOTE: Students should be prepared to go on two museum field trips outside of scheduled class time.

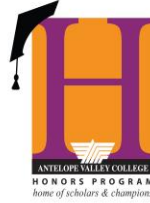
### **Astronomy 101                              MW                                      8:00 am - 9:20 am                                      (McGovern)                                      CRN 70151**

What is the fate of humanity? What opportunities exist for human deep space exploration? Are we alone in the universe? These are some of the many thought-provoking questions that we will take a scientific approaching to understanding over the course of the semester. Honors Astronomy offers dimensions that you don't find in a standard section. Smaller class size ensures a richer, more fulfilling classroom interaction and discussion. A greater emphasis is placed on the methods of scientific research to understand better how some of the more interesting astronomical findings were discovered. Each student will have the opportunity to individually explore in depth one of the many frontier topics in modern astronomy. **Prepare to boldly go where few Honors students have gone before!**

### **Communication Studies 101                      Monday                      7:00 pm - 10:05 pm                      (Reed)                      CRN 73600**

After you graduate from college, you will be joining all the others who have done so. What will set you apart is your ability to present yourself professionally. Learning how to critically evaluate messages and distinguish fact from opinion will enable you to stand and deliver with complete confidence. Successfully reading another's "body language" will enable you to understand what someone truly means versus what they may be saying. Whether you are completely confident and want to "fine tune" your skills, or ready to run screaming when you have to do any public speaking, this class is for you. Let communication be the key to your success!

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**English 101                      Tuesday              7:00 pm - 10:05 pm              (Oliveira)                      CRN 71751**

In this Academic Composition Honors course, students wrestle to make sense of current events, and then put those current events into cultural contexts for an academic audience. By the end of the term, students will advocate for an original public policy that could lead to a lasting peace within our culture. As a class, we will work toward developing a critical sensitivity to current events as social culminations, with their own complex histories. Together, we will interrogate arguments by a theorist (Susan Sontag) who urges readers to complicate what is regarded as the simple truth of what we see, by an artist (Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson) who seeks to unpack how his personal/professional identity exists as an unfixed point at cultural intersections, and by contemporary American journalists (from *Rolling Stone* magazine) who argue for particular truths about the world in which we live. Get mad, get curious, and then take a stand!

**English 103                      TR                      11:00 am - 12:20 pm              (Koritsoglou)                      CRN 74913**

How do we come to terms with the life experiences that shape us and make us see the world in new ways? In *A Sketch of the Past*, Virginia Woolf reveals how the writing of *To the Lighthouse* was a cathartic experience:

I wrote the book very quickly; and when it was written, I ceased to be obsessed by my mother. I no longer hear her voice, I do not see her. I suppose that I did for myself what psycho-analysts do for their patients. I expressed some very long felt and deeply felt emotion. And in expressing it I explained it and then laid it to rest.

But was it laid to rest? Using Sigmund Freud’s “Mourning and Melancholia” to guide us, we will examine the language of grief, the use of writing as catharsis, the line between fact and fiction (or, as Woolf calls it, granite and rainbow), and the difference between mourning and melancholia. Our readings will be drawn from a variety of genres, including fiction, poetry, art, historical documents, essays, and creative nonfiction. We’ll use these texts to practice critical thinking and argumentative writing skills through a blend of research, awareness of language, and the study of the basic principles of logical analysis, while measuring them against Freud’s observation that “[i]n mourning it is the world which has become poor and empty; in melancholia it is the ego itself.” Bring your ego and get ready to react.

**English 259                      Wednesday              7:00 pm - 10:05 pm              (Hoffer)                      CRN 76249**

In this Honors installment of Gender, Image, and Rhetoric, Mark Hoffer and History instructor Noah Stepro will team up to present cultural, artistic, literary, filmic, and photographic depictions of gender from classical mythology to Instagram, asking students to critically ponder the tensions of word and image, nature and nurture, society and self. From scriptural directives to legal definitions to *RuPaul’s Drag Race*, how do our notions of who we are and how we should act evolve, fracture, and constellate—and why are the people who challenge our notions both revered and reviled, remembered and discounted? Is gender an expression, a corrective, a distortion, or a complex, many-layered performance of who we are? Take this amazing course and find out!

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**Geology 101                      Thursday      3:45 pm - 6:45 pm      (Burd)                      CRN 74399**

What do earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, and mountain ranges all have in common? Will the 'Big One' turn Lancaster and Palmdale into beach-front property? Have previous volcanic eruptions caused global climate change? How can we prevent a geologic hazard from becoming a humanitarian disaster? We will address these questions and many more as we cover the basics of introductory geology in Honors Geology 101. Topics include minerals, rocks, plate tectonics, earthquakes, landslides, volcanoes, deserts, glaciers, and geologic resources. Compared to a standard class, we'll have additional discussion of how these topics relate to human history and current events. The small class size also allows us to take several field trips during the 3-hour course time. Get ready to rock! NOTE: students should be prepared to go on field trips outside of class time.

**History 108                      Friday              8:00 am - 11:00 am      (Guillen)                      CRN 75829**

Noam Chomsky once said, "Propaganda is to a democracy what the bludgeon is to a totalitarian state." How accurate is Chomsky's statement? Can propaganda ever only effect negative change? My History 108 student historians will explore these and many other propaganda-related questions, as they investigate the political, social, and economic developments of the United States (1877 - present) through the lens of propaganda. Students will also conduct in-depth research into a propaganda-related topic of their choice, compose a research paper worthy of scholarly publication, compose a short video to accompany their propaganda-related research, and present their findings in a simulated conference setting in our classroom. CAUTION: you may become propaganda masters by the end of the semester—use these skills wisely!

**Math 115                      MWF              11:00 am - 12:10 pm      (Villapando)                      CRN 76082**

If ten monkeys flip ten coins in the air times in a row, what is the probability it will come out heads all of the time? How do the "card sharks" in Las Vegas work, or how does your medical insurance company know what to charge for a premium? As we introduce ourselves to statistical procedure, we will study of graphs, central tendency, dispersion, probability, binomial distribution, estimation, hypothesis testing, regression, correlation, and chi-square. It sounds intimidating, but these are all extremely useful tools through life and academic study. Join us as we master the whole list.

**Music 101                      TR              2:15 pm - 3:35 pm      (Fewtrell)                      CRN76229**

The great American composer Aaron Copland said, "So long as the human spirit thrives on this planet, music in some living form will accompany and sustain it." In this class, we will listen to music spanning more than 2,000 years, from ancient Greece to the latest global performance via the internet. What common traits unite all music through the centuries? How can we listen to music on a deeper level? And in what ways does the evolving character of classical music correlate to social, political, and artistic movements through the centuries? You will hear a broader range of musical styles than you probably thought possible, including some of the most beautiful and amazing music ever written. Concert attendance earns extra credit.

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**Political Science 101      MW      9:30 am - 10:50 am      (Vento)      CRN 73078**

There has been an active debate about whether the American democratic system ensures freedom, equality, and individuality for all citizens. This Honors class will provide a springboard to analyze the American democratic system and whether or not it works. We will focus on major political events, such as the 2012 and 2008 presidential elections, the war with Iraq (as a response to the terrorists' attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup>), the impeachment of President Clinton, the *Citizens United* decision about money and speech, and other events and phenomena that allow us the opportunity to examine the American democratic system at work. We will depart from the traditional classroom format and employ a seminar-structured environment that uses the Socratic method of learning. Taking this class will improve your health—both physically and mentally. Be there!

**Psychology 212      Monday      3:45 pm - 6:50 pm      (Aviles)      CRN 74132**

No doubt about it, sex is an important topic. It's pervasive in our culture, our assumptions about gender, and even our politics. Take this Honors class and find out why. By taking this course you will learn more about sex than you thought was possible and become a more conscientious, rational, and well-informed human being. We will examine and discuss current sexual attitudes and behavior, as well as sexual dysfunction, sexual health, and variations in sexual behavior. You will want to read every word of the book, attend every lecture, and have something to say during every discussion. Imagine discussing the most interesting topics with the most thoughtful and intelligent people your age (this class is for Honors students, after all). Could there be a more interesting course? No way!

**Sociology 101      Thursday      7:00 pm - 10:00 pm      (Andrada)      CRN 73416**

Welcome to Sociology 101! Ever wonder about the inconsistencies between our ideals and concrete attitudes? How what you expect to happen is very different from what actually occurs? Have you ever been interested in learning how to read the "signs" and/or "red flag" on a date? Or trying to find your place among student life and what your status means in relation to the college? Then you'll definitely be intrigued by sociology. In this course we will focus on the systematic understanding of social interaction, social organization, social institutions, and social change. Major themes include the interplay between the individual and society, how society is both stable and changing, the causes and consequences of social inequality (wealth and poverty, race relations, etc.), and the social construction of human life (i.e. gender, race, sexuality). Understanding sociology helps us discover and explain social patterns (yes, there are patterns in dating) and see how such patterns change over time and in different settings. By making vivid the social basis of everyday life, sociology also develops critical thinking by revealing the social structures and processes that shape diverse forms of human life.