



Fall 2017

HONORS CLASSES
FALL 2017

Anthropology 101 / TR 12:30 - 1:50 (Wiewall) CRN 70050

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

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

Chemistry 110 / TR 2:15 - 3:35 & W 2:15 - 5:20 & R 3:45 - 4:35 (Schroer) CRN 76521

Communication Studies 101 / Tuesday 3:45 - 6:50 (Dixon) CRN 73600

Economics 101 / MW 2:15 - 3:35 (Ganley) CRN 75197

English 102 / Tuesday 7:00 - 10:05 pm (Toth) CRN 76581

English 103 / MW 12:30 - 1:50 (Lowry) CRN 74913

English 222 / Wednesday 7:00 - 10:05 pm (Hoffer) CRN 76583

History 108 / TR 8:00 - 9:20 (Jaffe) CRN 75829

History 110 / TR 11:00 - 12:20 (Burns) CRN 76015

Mathematics 115 / MWF 11:00 - 12:10 (Villapando) CRN 76082

Philosophy 105 / Friday 8:00 - 11:05 am (Mendoza) CRN 75210

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

Sociology 101 / Saturday 9:00 - 12:05 pm (Ambartsumyan) CRN 73416

Theatre Arts 101 / Monday 7:00 - 10:05 pm (Corona) CRN 75221



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Anthropology 101 TR 12:30 pm - 1:50 pm (Wiewall) CRN 70050

Welcome to Physical Anthropology 101! Ever wonder who we are and how we got here, and what's with these strange opposable thumbs? Ever wonder why the human species is so diverse? How can we share over 99% of our DNA with a chimpanzee? Does the Hobbit really exist? What anatomical and behavioral differences do we have from Neandertals? We will explore all of these questions and more in this course. The central focus of this class is the scientific study of human origins focused on the biological and cultural evolution of the genus *Homo*. We will cover the history, concepts, methods, and theory of biological evolution and adaptation and apply these ideas in a lecture and discussion setting. The philosophy of science and the scientific method serve as the primary intellectual foundations of this course. In addition, we will take a bio-cultural approach, studying humans in terms of the interaction between biology and culture in evolutionary adaptation. The field of anthropology helps us to understand so many important aspects of our world, such as population genetics, the biological significance of "race," the fossil evidence for human evolution, archaeological evidence for the origin of culture, and ethical issues in physical anthropology. Welcome to the human journey across space and time!

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 recent 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 approach scientifically over the course of the semester. Honors Astronomy offers beneficial aspects that you don't find in a standard section. Smaller class size ensures a richer, more fulfilling classroom interaction and opportunity for discussion. Also in this course, a greater emphasis is placed on methods of scientific research, and we will cover in more detail some of the most amazing astronomical findings. In fact, each student will have the opportunity to analyze one of the many exciting frontier topics in modern astronomy. **Prepare to boldly go where few Honors students have gone before!**

Chemistry 110 TR 2:15 - 3:35 pm & W 2:15 - 5:20 pm & R 3:45 - 4:35 pm (Schroer) CRN 76521

Falling in love is about the right chemistry. Come to this class and you will fall in love *with* chemistry. Do you like to destroy, rearrange, and build? Then you love chemical reactions. In this course we will be learning about the atoms and how they react with each other to form more complex structures. We will go back in time and meet Mendeleev and his periodic table; we will learn about bonding theories and play with different energies. We will explore topics close to home, like the water in our local communities, and although we won't always have the right solution on every topic, we will learn what solutions are. We will practice thinking critically and will determine to what extent chemistry really controls our lives. We will use an inquiry-based curriculum



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during a seminar-structured environment and employ the Socratic method of learning. You will not only learn in the classroom but also work in the lab as you learn to test and evaluate theories. You will love it!

Communication Studies 101 Tuesday 3:45 pm - 6:50 pm (Dixon) CRN 73600

The art of public speaking is not just a learned skill. It is way of life and modern necessity. The success of our professional and social interactions depends on the ability to influence an audience, organize our message, and provide evidence for our claims. This course will provide the knowledge and practical skills that are crucial to be an effective and impactful public speaker. We will discover how to not only overcome speech apprehension, but also learn how to harness this fear and use the energy to master the art of public speaking. When you have the tools for success, there is no limit on your potential.

Economics 101 MW 2:15 pm - 3:35 pm (Ganley) CRN 75197

Extending what is normally covered in Economics 101, this Honors course offers a sophisticated yet engaging introduction to the principles of Macroeconomics, and puts an analytical focus on the U.S. economy. Topics include a study of market systems, economic business cycles, unemployment, inflation, national income accounts, macroeconomic equilibrium, money and financial institutions, monetary and fiscal policy, globalization, international trade and finance. Students will be introduced to some of the concepts and theories typically addressed in intermediate-level Macroeconomics courses, including the welfare implications of government policies, calculating asset prices, advanced version of money multiplier, Okun's law, and Taylor's rule. In order to prepare and sharpen the research skills needed at many four-year institutions, this Honors course gives students the opportunity to write a research paper based on macroeconomic time-series data taken from the St. Louis Fed FRED database. Increase your academic net worth, and enroll in this class!

English 102 Tuesday 7:00 pm - 10:05 pm (Toth) CRN 76581

Reduce, reuse, recycle—a common phrase in today's environmentally conscious world, but for decades writers and filmmakers have been going green by revisiting, reimagining, and repurposing earlier texts that have served as a source of inspiration. In this literature-based critical thinking course, we will explore the connections between selected films and literary texts, attempting to identify themes vital to the human condition, which make these works both timeless and universal. We'll examine the various iterations of itinerants struggling to return home as we ask, "O Homer, Where Art Thou?" We will also witness Woody Allen depend on the kindness of Tennessee Williams and other strangers in *Blue Jasmine*. Finally, known to cadge storylines from other sources, Shakespeare is one upped as we examine the different cinematic permutations of the Bard's theatrical farewell, *The Tempest*. During our analysis of film and literature, students will study a variety of critical perspectives and will consider how these literary connections influence subsequent texts, as well as illuminate earlier works. In addition, as this is an Honors-level course, students will be expected to utilize advanced critical thinking, writing, reading, and research skills, as well as demonstrate appropriate use of literary theory and film studies terminology.

English 103 MW 12:30 pm - 1:50 pm (Lowry) CRN 74913

This course in critical reading, writing, and research will give students a taste of the kind of independent research process they will be expected to engage in as graduate students—where they design their own research question from within their major, make a proposal to their research director as to how they intend to do the research, do the research, and write an academic paper in the format and style of their discipline. Along the way, students will learn to do research beyond the library—in the field, through surveys and interviews, and



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even, perhaps, in the laboratory. The class will also include a series of stylistically challenging readings, and require students to engage with them both in terms of content and style. As a result of these activities, the student should come out of the class as a much more confident and sophisticated writer.

English 222 **Wednesday 7:00 pm - 10:05 pm** **(Hoffer)** **CRN 76583**

In this Honors installment of American Literature, 1865 - Present, Mark Hoffer and History instructor Noah Stepro will team up to look at American culture from the Civil War to Civil Rights (1960s and after), focusing on the theme of the haunted and the unresolved. Along with amazing literary, filmic, and photographic works, the course will include a recent critical study, *Ghostland: An American History in Haunted Places*, as a major text for discussion and analysis. Hawthorne, Poe, Dickinson, Whitman, Eliot, Fitzgerald, Faulkner, Hemingway, Hansberry, Plath, and so many more voices and perspectives will enliven this foray into the American (un)consciousness, or, as the narrator of *The Great Gatsby* puts it, “the dark fields of the republic.”

History 108 **TR** **8:00 am - 9:20 am** **(Jaffe)** **CRN 75829**

Circle up, please, because we are going to debate important issues in U.S. history. How did women get the right to vote? Why is an understanding of racial issues crucial to an understanding of American history and identity? What really went on in Vietnam? We will even look at who killed Kennedy...*any* Kennedy. Join Dr. Matthew Jaffe for group work, oral presentations, punning, and take-home papers to learn about the last century of this country’s history. No laundry lists of facts, no in-class tests, just sharp, stimulating discussion. What’s more, this class fulfills the American History and Institution requirement for CSU and UC.

History 110 **TR** **11:00 am - 12:20 pm** **(Burns)** **CRN 76015**

Imagine taking an afternoon stroll through your home town, observing friends and family going about their everyday chores, careers, hobbies, and games. Standing on the perimeter of this peaceful scene, you are suddenly knocked out cold. Coming to, with a bag over your head, you find that your feet are chained to others. Stumbling through the countryside, you are completely confused and disoriented. When the bag is finally removed, you find yourself in a strange fortress, with hundreds of strangers who do not speak your language, all looking out upon a vast body of water. This was the experience of millions of Africans, prior to being transported in a tight-packer to the New World. The history of the African American Experience is a story of European hegemony in Africa and the New World, involving the tragic separation of millions of Africans from their homeland and families—along with the creation of America’s “Peculiar Institution” of slavery. Their struggles, suffering, adaptation, and survival have been recorded in their blood, sweat, and toil, on plantations large and small, throughout the American South. In this Honors course, we will explore their journey and history in-depth, in seminar-style discussion. ***Be prepared to be disturbed!***

Mathematics 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 everything from graphs to concepts such as 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.

Philosophy 105 **Friday** **8:00 am - 11:05 am** **(Mendoza)** **CRN 75210**



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Mark Twain once reimagined the encounter between the Lord of the Garden and Adam and Eve. Adam noted the exchange between them by saying to Eve that the act of eating from a certain tree would cause them die. “It is the tree of good and evil,” Adam said. Eve responded by asking, “What is good, and what is evil?” In this ethics course, we will be asking the same question as Eve: what is good, and what is evil? Do they even exist?

We will explore those questions by looking at different theoretical perspectives that answer the questions by looking into intention, pain, virtues, God, psychology, and feminism. After the foundations of theory have been built, a multicultural approach (Buddhist, Islamic, African American, Latin American, Asian, Feminist, etc.) will be applied to help us look at the different perspectives of applied ethics as they relate to the death penalty, free speech, animal rights, violence, abortion, euthanasia, and equality, among other topics. In the wise words of Michael Scott and Holly Flax (from *The Office*), “Let’s get ethical; ethical! I want to get ethical!”

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 2016 and 2008 presidential elections, the war with Iraq, and the recall of Governor Gray Davis. We will also examine the terrorists’ attacks of September 11th and the impeachment of President William Jefferson Clinton. Each of these events has demonstrated the various roles of government and provides us with 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.**

Sociology 101 **Saturday** **9:00 am - 12:05 pm** **(Ambartsumyan)** **CRN 73416**
What is *intersectionality* and how does it impact who you are and how you experience the world around you? Sociology 101 relies on the concept of intersectionality: the premise that people live multiple, layered identities derived from social relations, history, and the operation of structures of power. Utilizing Sociological theories and concepts, this course aims to address the way racism, ableism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, class oppression, and other systems of discrimination create inequalities that structure the relative positions of all people. The course considers historical, social, and political contexts and recognizes unique individual experiences resulting from the coming together of different types of identity. This course is discussion-based, allowing students to share their beliefs, ideologies, and values in a safe environment which ultimately enhances critical and analytical thinking by revealing the social structures and processes that shape diverse forms of human life. Let us get comfortable with the uncomfortable together!

Theatre Arts 101 **Monday** **7:00 pm - 10:05 pm** **(Corona)** **CRN 75221**
This Honors Introduction to Theatre course is for students who want to explore and navigate the world of theatre and performance through readings, discussion, and practice. Students will benefit not only by gaining a better understanding of theatre as a collaborative process, but also by looking at theatre as an agent of change in society. They will see that theatre is not only entertainment, but is a medium for personal, cultural, and social dialogue in everyday lives. Through engaging and reflective assignments, discussions and analysis of theatre,



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students will gain transferable skills such as interpersonal communication, public speaking, critical analysis, and broader modes of thinking. Students will be audience members at live theatrical productions, practitioners through group presentation, and critics through analysis. Whether you are interested in ancient Greek or contemporary American voices, are brand new to theatre, or have been doing it all your life, your views and artistic tastes will be welcomed and nurtured in this class. The world is a stage—come explore with us!