



12/SPR Selected Topics courses

EVS-371-1 The Earth, Climate Change and Energy (3 credits) Soucek MWF 2-2:50pm cap 25

Course description including outcome statement: Most scientists agree that the Earth is currently experiencing a rapid warming trend caused by human-induced changes in the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Much of this greenhouse gas emission is due to the use of fossil fuels to produce electricity and provide transportation. This course will examine our current understanding of climate science and the role of energy and its impact on life and earth systems. Current energy-producing practices will be examined as well as technological alternatives to fossil fuels. The roles institutions have on climate policy, such as the Kyoto Protocol, will also be examined. Upon successful completion of this course students will demonstrate an understanding of basic earth systems as they relate to climate change, the natural and human-induced origins and impacts of climate change, and how societies are developing sustainable climate solutions.

GEG-371-1 Soils, Systems, and Sustainability (3 credits) Jakubowski TH 6:30pm – 9pm cap 20

You walk on it, drive over it, dig in it, and grow things from it. This course investigates soil, which is the key to any human endeavor on land. Whether you're an environmental scientist, biologist, or even political scientist, knowledge of how life functions and depends on this earth system is paramount to long term success. Students will study the importance of sustainability in regard to soil water and nutrition, biology, agriculture, and urban landscapes such as athletic fields.

INT-371-1 Making it in America (3 credits) Hetrick TTH 1-2:15pm cap 25

This course will familiarize students of disciplines outside of German with the German language films and literature that have found particular success in the United States. For centuries, many German language works of literature, and more recently, movies, have achieved great success in the U.S. In recent years alone, five German films have been nominated for Academy Awards, and several novels have both received praise from critics and become bestsellers in their English translations. Oprah Winfrey even selected one for her book club. In this course, we will discuss and write about these texts and their relationship to not only the histories and cultures of German speaking countries, but also of the United States. Each text will raise different issues, but as we read, watch, write, and discuss, we will always keep two central questions in mind. First, what can these books and films teach us about the present and past of German speaking countries, and Germany in particular? And second, why have they been so well received in the U.S.? In other words, what does their popularity suggest about the culture and the historical perspective of the Americans who read or watch them? *No knowledge of the German language required.*

LCM-371-1 The Environmentally Literate Citizen (7 credits) Diercks, Soucek, Florendo TTH 1-3:45pm cap 25

Course learners will demonstrate skills and dispositions they need to understand and act on environmental problems and issues as responsible citizens and to continue the learning process throughout their lives. The course will promote active and responsible citizenship by challenging learners to hone and apply problem-solving, analysis, persuasive communication, and other higher level skills in real-world contexts. *This course counts as credit for GEO-101 (4) and EDU-338 (3).*

PHI-471-1 Philosophy of Religion (3 credits) Monaghan TTH 1-2:15pm cap 25

Does God exist? If so, which attributes does he have? These are the two main questions to be addressed in this course. Along the way, the following questions will also be considered. If God is omnipotent, does that mean that he can create a stone that is so heavy that even he can't lift it? If God is omniscient, does that mean that we have no free will? If God is omnibenevolent, why is there evil in the world? Upon completion of the course, students will not only be able to discuss these issues in a competent manner, they will also be able to distinguish between a variety of arguments either for or against the existence of God, including the cosmological argument, the ontological argument, the argument from design, and the argument from evil.

THE-371-1 CADD for Theatre (3 credits) Stander TTH 1-2:15pm cap 12

Study and application of computer-aided design techniques for scenery construction and design focusing on the use of CADD to create technical drawings for the theatre. Students will be able to create presentation quality 2-D CAD drawings from scratch.