

### **FYE 125-01 Non-Fiction Art & Politics: Images, Words, Sounds**

**Peter Blackman Tuesday/Thursdays 9:00-10:30**

In this seminar, we will explore non-fiction art that embodies overt political attitudes, ideas, perspectives and aspirations. We will focus on documentary film/audio and writing, and how artists use these mediums to explore social issues. You will create a final project that investigates an issue you are passionate about through an art form of your choosing (writing, video, audio, multi-media, etc.). We will also explore what it means to be a socially conscious artist/activist, and will encourage each other to consider the nature and meaning of our own work. Authors include: *Marx, Illich, Wolfe, Sahlins, and Kozol*. Films include: *The Fog of War, Manufactured Landscapes, The Yes Men, High School, Darwin's Nightmare*.

### **FYE 125-02 Upside Down World**

**Robert Jessen Tuesday/Thursdays 9:00-10:30**

Borrowed from the title of a book by Eduardo Galeano, Upside Down World means that things are not as we perceive. If the United States is a beacon on a hill, why does it prop up dictators and encourage policies that hurt the poorest of the poor around the world? Upside Down World is also a metaphor for turning the globe over, and looking at the world from the perspective of the Southern Hemisphere. Along with Galeano, we will read, Arundhati Roy, George Orwell, Naomi Wolf and Sinclair Lewis.

### **FYE 125-03 The Other World: A Perspective on Global Poverty**

**Ali Arshad Tuesday/Thursdays 9:00-10:30**

The new millennium began with a modest goal of eradicating absolute poverty by 2015, but despite progress the goals remain elusive. In Africa almost 50 percent of the people live on less than \$1 a day, while in Asia the estimates range from 25 to 33 percent. Although 70 percent of the earth's surface consists of water, significant portions of world's poor have no access to clean drinking water. More than half of all children in Asia and Africa live in dire poverty, without access to clean drinking water, safe food or elementary education. The problem of "missing women" has achieved epidemic proportion in some parts of the world. Poverty is the most serious issue facing the world today. Many scholars believe that global warming is, to a large extent, caused by widespread absolute poverty. This course will explore the nature, causes, contexts and consequences of poverty in the United States and in the developing nations. We will attempt to develop an understanding of poverty by exploring its economic, political, psychological and social aspects. We will also collaborate in exploring potential solutions to persistent poverty.

### **FYE 125-04 "Imagine all the People Living Life in Peace:"**

**An interdisciplinary course about why violence exists and how peace is created.**

**Susan Marcus Tuesday/Thursdays 9:00-10:30**

Have you heard someone say "Oh, we'll never have peace – violence is part of human nature"? Ever wonder why many people (maybe you) think violence is inevitable? John Lennon said, "war is over if you want it." Was his a misguided optimism or was Lennon on to something? Novels, poetry, short stories, popular culture, psychology and political science theory, theology, history, cultural studies, hypotheses from science and other academic disciplines all come together in this class to give students a multifaceted understanding of both violence and peace.

We will explore the existence in contemporary times of violence in its many forms including poverty, armed conflicts, and discrimination based on class, race, gender, and sexuality. We will study how peace in its many forms; security, safety, adequate food and health care, human rights, are fostered, created and maintained. Students will be asked to explore personal choices, because everyone, on a daily basis, makes the choice to use or not to use violence to attain goals, often without much conscious thought. This interdisciplinary peace studies course is designed to help bring these choices to greater consciousness.

**FYE 125-05 Alienation: An Introduction to Political Thinking**

**Richard Bank Tuesday/Thursdays 10:45-12:15**

Focusing on the problem of alienation, this course will take a journey through the history of Western political thinking. The trip begins on a motorcycle, with Robert Pirsig's *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*, before heading back to ancient Greece for the trial of Socrates. Montesquieu then gives us a sardonic glimpse of Bourgeois society in 18th century Paris, followed by socialist and anarchist critiques of that society from Marx and Thoreau respectively, concluding with Virginia Woolf's feminist tract, *A Room of One's Own*. Throughout we will explore questions of culture, gender, technology and art, in our efforts to better understand the problem of alienation, and we will encounter several competing visions of politics along the way. In the end, each of us will be forced to decide for ourselves what ends and purposes society and politics ought to serve, and how individual needs and wants can and should be reconciled with the needs of the larger community.

**FYE 125-06 East & West: A Cultural & Philosophical Dialogue**

**James Jordan Tuesday/Thursdays 10:45-12:15**

A philosophical dialogue between eastern and western civilization is viewed through summaries of the classic literature of ancient India, Greece, China, Japan, and others. The course presents several short films on the emergence of civilizations and the cultures that grew from each. In our contemporary global village, the demand is great for knowledge and awareness of not only cultural life-ways, but the underlying philosophy which guides human behavior. How have family value systems, ethics, community goals, the process of thinking, and problem-solving been taught throughout the world?

An optional 1 credit Lab accompanies this course entitled: Tai Chi Chuan & Taoism: an Introduction. This Lab will facilitate a more thorough understanding of one of the main philosophies of ancient China.

**FYE 125-07 Myth, Symbol and Archetype**

**Dana Levin Tuesday/Thursdays 10:45-12:15**

Hero. Villain. Femme Fatale. These and many other archetypal figures appear spontaneously in the myths and folktales of all peoples across all time. Pioneering psychologist Carl Jung sees them as interior figures that express aspects of the individual and collective psyche. Joseph Campbell believes studying such figures can lead us not only to a great understanding of human nature and culture but can also teach us how to handle our contemporary lives. In this course, we will analyze myths, stories and films in light of Jungian psychology and Campbell's conception of the hero's journey. There will

be a lot of reading: we will primarily focus on ancient Greek myth with forays into myths of other cultures, some modern poetry and fiction, and writings in psychology, including many of the writings of Carl Jung, which can be quite challenging. We will watch, analyze and discuss two films: 'Triumph of the Will' and 'Silence of the Lambs,' as well as analyze some film clips in class that illustrate aspects of the Hero's Journey. Assignments will include two formal essays and a final art project.

**FYE 125-08 Contemporary Native American Art, Literature, and Film:  
Creative Acts of Affirmation and Resistance  
Carolyn Kastner Tuesday/Thursdays 10:45-12:15**

This interdisciplinary course will focus on creative acts of expression from three distinct art forms to initiate a comparative discussion about their shared aesthetics. In this three-way dialogue we will investigate how contemporary indigenous literature, art and film express affirmation and resistance. We will trace oral traditions to understand the source of contemporary poetry, fiction and political prose by writers such as Vine Delorian, James Welch, Leslie Marmon Silko, Louise Erdrich, Sherman Alexie, and Robert Warrior. In a process of close reading, we will use their writings as a lens for interpreting the contemporary artwork of Jaune Quick-To-See Smith, James Luna, Rebecca Belmore, Marcus Amerman, and Erica Lord, among others. We will also view the films of a new generation inspired by director Chris Eyre. We will analyze themes, rhythms, and practices common to these writers, artist, and filmmakers, whose work is alive with communication between contemporary and traditional cultures, among individuals, and across generations.