

# ***New Course Descriptions for Fall Term 2023***

**(\*current courses with new descriptions)**

**(updated 4/26/23)**

## **ART 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: SERIGRAPHY (4)**

**Martens**

From Warhol and Basquiat, to Fairey and Holzer, screen printing is a popular and direct method of printmaking. This course will introduce students to the medium of fine art screen printing. We will investigate screen printing techniques, skills, materials, and processes. Both hands-on and photomechanical methods for creating imagery will be covered as time permits, as well as consideration of form and content. Students will work on visual problems in the classroom, learning creativity and consistency through experimentation and print editions. Projects will be assigned and interspersed with classroom demonstration, discussion, screen printing history, and group critiques. This class is open to any student interested in silkscreen printmaking; no prior printmaking experience necessary! Course fee estimated \$100 required for materials and supplies. Prerequisite: Art 100/Drawing I or permission.

## **ART 250: MINDFUL MAKING (4)**

**Martens**

Within this course students will investigate techniques, skills, materials, and processes that give homage to the handmade, to its contemplative nature, and to the unique individuality therein. Students will experience projects ranging from printmaking to bookmaking, and a combination for a final project. Projects will be assigned and interspersed with classroom demonstration, discussion, and critique. If you are interested in attentive yet restorative focus, as well as the analog process of creating, this course is for you! We will possibly take 1-2 all-day field trips to Floyd County, so transportation is helpful, although not required. Prerequisites: a willingness to unplug and create! Course fee of \$100 (estimated) required for materials and supplies.

## **ART 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY (4)**

**Zompetti**

Explore color photography from a contemporary art perspective, utilizing both color film and digital capture methods. Students will be provided with a digital SLR camera, a film SLR camera, and various plastic film cameras for more experimental work. Importing and organizing digital image files, film scanning techniques, and editing in Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom will be covered, with an emphasis on learning photographic adjustments such as exposure, contrast, and color balance to create high-quality image files for printing. We will also research both historic and contemporary photographic artists, and student work will be discussed in supportive critique sessions. Lab and film processing fees required. Prerequisite: ART 203.

## **ARTH 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: ROMAN WOMEN: METHODOLOGIES AND EVIDENCE (4)**

**McCullough**

This course will examine the material evidence for women across the Roman empire considering small finds, visual culture, epigraphic material, skeletal remains, and architectural components to answer the following questions: How was the feminine gender constructed and presentation in public and private contexts negotiated? How did women interact with and affect the religious and economic structures around them? How were women included in the making of empire?

## **ARTH 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: AFRICA AND EUROPE, MODERN ART AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (4)**

**Gibson**

This seminar focuses on encounters between the cultures of Africa and Europe, from 1880-1960, and on artistic practices that emerged on both continents as a result. Topics include racial difference, ramifications of colonialism, post-colonial monuments and memorials, African influence on Dada and surrealism, Negritude and interwar Paris, colonial arts education, and the South African built environment under and after Apartheid. Pre-requisite, Any Art History course, or instructor permission. Offered both terms.

## **CLAS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: ROMAN WOMEN: METHODOLOGIES AND EVIDENCE (4)**

**McCullough**

This course will examine the material evidence for women across the Roman empire considering small finds, visual culture, epigraphic material, skeletal remains, and architectural components to answer the following questions: How was the feminine gender constructed and presentation in public and private contexts negotiated? How did women interact with and affect the religious and economic structures around them? How were women included in the making of empire?

## **ES 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: TROPICAL ECOLOGY (2)**

**Godard**

In this course we will delve into the ecology and biodiversity of two ecosystems of Ecuador: the Amazon rainforest and the high Andean paramo. We will familiarize ourselves with some of the rich biodiversity, explore ecological relationships, and come to understand some of the environmental concerns that threaten this region. In addition, we will explore how science and indigenous knowledge can provide a platform for deepening our understanding of

the natural world and for generating positive change. This course is open only to students that have been accepted into the upcoming January term travel/research trip. Offered Term 1.

**ES 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS (4)**

**Thorn**

Throughout human history agriculture has been a mainstay in how societies operate. Everything from providing extra income to the wealthy to ensuring enough food is available for growing populations. This course will explore a brief history of global Agriculture, deep dive into US food systems and how they've changed since the green revolution, and prompt students with critical questions around where we get our food, why it matters, and how to make choices you can digest. Students are expected to critically examine agricultural and social issues, in a discussion-based format. There is an anticipated field trip to at least one farm in the Southwest Virginia area. Prerequisite ES 104 or 105. Offered Term 1.

**FILM 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: SMART WOMEN (4)**

**Gentry**

In this course students examine women's roles as scientists and medical doctors in film. Focusing on the science fiction genre, stereotypes of the characters portrayed and the science presented will be investigated and discussed. Offered Term 1.

**FILM 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: ANIMATION STUDIES (4)**

**Lee**

This course introduces students to the academic study of animation. Organized by a series of concepts that animation scholars have explored (movement, liveliness, simulation, realism, performance) the class will engage with a wide variety of animated media and the debates they have provoked. From the earliest animation of images in pre-cinematic technologies such as the Zoopraxiscope through classic Disney films to the contemporary ubiquity of CGI, the course will investigate animation as both a historically crucial (but often marginalized) art form as well as the dominant media of our digital environment. Offered Term 1.

**FREN 250/350: SPECIAL TOPIC: LITERATURES AND CULTURES IN THE FRENCH-SPEAKING INDIAN OCEAN (4)**

**Jégouso**

This course will examine Francophone literatures and cultures in the Indian Ocean, exploring the diverse range of cultures and literary works produced by writers and artists from the region. We will explore themes such as coloniality, decoloniality, creolization, cosmopolitanism, oceanic poetics, and language, with a focus on how these themes are reflected in the cultural production of the Indian Ocean. Students will watch and analyze movies, read and analyze texts from various genres, including novels, poetry, short stories, and comic books with a special emphasis on works produced in Mauritius, Reunion Island, Seychelles, and Madagascar. Throughout the semester, students will gain a deeper understanding of the complex historical, cultural, and social contexts in which these works were produced. Course and readings in French.

**GLAM 150: SPECIAL TOPIC: SHAPING MEMORY: ETHICS AND PRACTICES OF GLAM INSTITUTIONS (4)**

**Culligan, Folck, Vilelle**

Students will learn about methodology, history of collections, standard practices/procedures, information management, and digital preservation for GLAM-related institutions. New ways of storing, displaying, organizing, and interpreting tangible/intangible objects will be explored. The class will benefit from engagement with professionals in the field. Offered Term 1.

**GLAM 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: CULTURAL HERITAGE IN A DIGITAL WORLD (2)**

**Sprague**

This course will explore the use of digital technologies to preserve and share analog and born-digital cultural heritage materials. Included in the course will be an introduction to digital humanities (a growing field of research at the intersection of digital technology and humanities disciplines); a review of approaches to managing information with technology; and considerations of the user experience with online resources.

**GWS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: WOMEN, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY IN THE UNITED STATES (4)**

**Alms**

This course moves chronologically from the nineteenth century to the present day and examines how American women's lives were shaped by their gender, race, sexuality, and class; by government policy and social norms; and by individual choices. Topics include women, slavery, and the Civil War; social movements in the 19th and 20th centuries; and women at work.

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This course will examine the material evidence for women across the Roman empire considering small finds, visual culture, epigraphic material, skeletal remains, and architectural components to answer the following questions: How was the feminine gender constructed and presentation in public and private contexts negotiated? How did women

interact with and affect the religious and economic structures around them? How were women included in the making of empire?

**HIST 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: HISTORY OF SCIENCE, MEDICINE, AND TECHNOLOGY (4)                      Rossler**

This course surveys the development of modern science, medicine, and technology from the eighteenth century to the present. We will explore the ways we conceive of science and medicine—how it is done, who does it, and what it means—have shifted dramatically in tandem with how we understand the world and society.

**HIST 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: WOMEN, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY IN THE UNITED STATES (4)                      Alms**

This course moves chronologically from the nineteenth century to the present day and examines how American women's lives were shaped by their gender, race, sexuality, and class; by government policy and social norms; and by individual choices. Topics include women, slavery, and the Civil War; social movements in the 19th and 20th centuries; and women at work.

**POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: PRESIDENTIAL POWER (4)                      Chenette**

*Description TBA.*

**REL 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: SHAMANS, SEERS, AND SAVAGES (4)                      Peckruhn**

This course will help the student distinguish between and appreciate the specific select religious and spiritual approaches covered in this course. This sequence will cover indigenous and so-called New Age traditions: North American traditions, African traditions, Paganism, and select others (e.g. Aboriginal Australian tradition) as time allows. Origins, historical developments, rituals and practices, the religious situation of indigenous people in the postcolonial world, and issues/conflicts arising out of contemporary socio-political contexts will be discussed.

**SPAN 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: HISPANIC MEDIA (4)                      Portillo**

This course approaches relevant contemporary debates as they are presented by media from Spain, Latin America and the Hispanic communities in the United States. Students will gain a critical insight of the ways in which media not only portrays aspects of culture and society, but shapes their perception by the public and, in many cases, follow political agendas and ideological tendencies. There will be group presentations, several writing assignments and a final project. This project consists on the design, production and presentation of an original media outlet that incorporates the knowledge acquired through the semester.