

## **Summer 2011 HONORS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Fashion Branding Unraveled: Meanings & Stories**

**Instructor: Joseph Hancock**

**Email: [jhh33@drexel.edu](mailto:jhh33@drexel.edu)**

**Honors 201, Section 001, Tuesdays, 10:00 AM – 12:50 PM**

**3.0 credits**

**CRN – 42490**

An important and rapidly growing challenge for fashion companies is developing stimulating and strong representations of products for consumers to purchase in brick & mortar shops, online, in catalogues and television – this has been called *branding*. In this class, students investigate and experience fashion brands in today’s contemporary context. Students will explore how certain social and cultural topics impact branding and are used to communicate, represent, and translate an organization's positioning, market and products & services. Special emphasis will be put on the fashion branding process based upon research, writing, theoretical concept development, marketing, and topics related to the big companies and entrepreneurs. The role of retailers and merchandisers in the branding process will be discussed critically. Students will be responsible for moving beyond traditional “surface” readings and meanings.

### **Love, Lust, and Guilt in Film and Literature**

**Instructor: Zhenya Kiperman**

**Email: [zhenya1@optonline.net](mailto:zhenya1@optonline.net)**

**Honors 301, Section 001, Wednesdays 3:00PM – 5:50PM**

**3.0 credits**

**CRN – 42493**

The course is dedicated to three interconnected passions that largely define us as humans and bring most joy and pain to our lives. Love, Lust and Guilt are the eternal subjects of literature and cinema, and we will study fine examples of both. We will also address the issue of aesthetic gains and losses in cinematic adaptation by closely comparing several films with their literary sources. Most films will be screened in class and followed by discussions.

### **Children Literature: The History of Delight**

**Instructor: Marilyn MacGregor**

**Email: [marilynmacgregor@gmail.com](mailto:marilynmacgregor@gmail.com)**

**HNRS 301, Section 501, Tuesdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM**

**3.0 credits**

**CRN – 42491**

Children's Books are a magic carpet ride into the history of human thought. From Aesop to Harry Potter, fundamental ideas, values, and beliefs have been passed from one generation to the next through the use of lively, colorful stories and pictures. This course provides an in-depth overview of this exciting literature, including classics, illustrations, modern favorites, and contemporary trends.

### **Food Writing**

**Instructor: Jason Wilson**

**Email: [jfw39@drexel.edu](mailto:jfw39@drexel.edu)**

**HNRS 301, Section 502, Wednesdays 6:00PM to 8:50PM**

**3.0 credits**

**CRN – 42492**

***“And you tell me, friends, that there is no disputing taste and tasting? But all life is a dispute over taste and tasting!” — Friedrich Nietzsche***

We must admit, these days the seemingly straightforward question of ‘What shall we have for dinner?’ has become complicated. As bestselling author Michael Pollan writes in *The Omnivore’s Dilemma*: “How did we get to a point where we need investigative journalists to tell us where our food comes from and nutritionists to determine the dinner menu?” Farmer-poet Wendell Berry once wrote, “Eating is an agricultural act.” But it is also much more than that. It is a political act, a cultural act, and an ethical act. Most importantly, it’s also a very personal act. In his famous 19th century work ‘The Physiology of Taste,’ Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin wrote, “Tell me what you eat, and I will tell you what you are.” In this workshop course, we will see whether this still holds true today.

Writing about food is a significant, and popular, literary genre that’s not just about recipe writing and restaurant listings. With that in mind, we will write in various forms — personal essay, criticism, journalism — as we read and analyze classic and contemporary models. With food as our context, we will work on writing technique, with particular attention to voice, storytelling, and narrative structure, as well as observation, reporting...and of course, tasting.

This course will be taught by Jason Wilson, who writes a weekly column for the Washington Post’s food section. His column has twice won an award for Best Newspaper Food Column from the Association of Food Journalists. His book, “Boozehound: On The Trail of the Rare, the Obscure, and the Overrated in Spirits” is a finalist for the IACP Cookbook Awards in the category of “literary food writing”.

### **Mysteries and History**

**Instructor: Cordelia Biddle**

**Email: [CordeliaFrancesBiddle@earthlink.net](mailto:CordeliaFrancesBiddle@earthlink.net)**

**HNRS 301, Section 503, Mondays 6:00PM – 8:50PM**

**3.0 credits**

**CRN - 42494**

In this class, you'll learn how to write compelling historical mysteries, construct organic characters who are products of their unique environments, and successfully utilize primary and secondary research tools in order to reveal historical facts integral to the plot. Using a combination of writing techniques and acting techniques you'll discover how to create work that's visual, visceral and that draws the reader backward in time.

### **Terrorism and Torture**

**Instructor: Fred Abbate**

**Email: [fja421@comcast.net](mailto:fja421@comcast.net)**

**HNRS 302, Section 501, Wednesdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM**

**3.0 credits**

**CRN - 42495**

Among other questions the course will analyze are: Can terrorism be strictly defined? How does it differ from uses of violence that we believe (rightly or wrongly) seem to be acceptable from an ethical perspective? How can terrorists ever morally justify the killing of innocents? Is terrorism connected with the just war doctrine or similar policies? What constitutes torture, and can it ever be morally allowed to combat the saving of innocent lives? Why are such techniques not allowable under international conventions? What are the effects—beyond those on the victim—that torture as a policy can produce?

## **UNIVERSITY COURSES – WILL COUNT TOWARDS REQUIRED HONORS CREDIT**

### **Great Works Symposium – The Information City**

**Instructors –Scott Knowles, Danuta Nitecki, and Robert D'Ovidio**

**Email: [sgk23@drexel.edu](mailto:sgk23@drexel.edu)**

**UNIV 241, Section 501, 502, and 503 Wednesdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM**

**3.0 credits**

**CRN – 42496, 42497, or 42498**

What is the role of information in urban democracy and urban economic development?

Technological innovations have consistently transformed the human experience. At the dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the automobile and the skyscraper profoundly altered the physical and social landscape of the United States. America became urban. Now, we have entered the Information Age.

Computers are not simply word processors. Phones no longer just connect friends and family: they provide instant access to all sorts of information (e.g. the weather, directions, stock prices, and political news). Strangers can find your home on Google Earth. The cameras of law enforcement agencies can catch you running a red light and can see so much more. Everyday, over 500 million people across the world interact on Facebook. This course examines how information structures the city. It explores the implications of the Information Age for the urban economy and urban democratic practice. This course will address the following topics: the role of information technology in urban emergency management and disaster response; the contemporary social, economic, and political function of the urban library; the legality and ethics of privacy issues raised by advances in information technology; and the role of information in urban governance and democratic practice.