

**QAC201Z/NS&B280Z/
PSYC280Z**

MTWRF
10:00AM – 12:00PM,
1:00PM – 3:00PM
Valerie Nazzaro

In Person
Graded

MTWRF
5:30PM – 9:30PM
Emmanuel Kaparakis
Online
Graded

Applied Data Analysis

In this project-based course, you will have the opportunity to answer questions that you feel passionately about through independent research based on existing data. You will develop skills in generating testable hypotheses, conducting a literature review, preparing data for analysis, conducting descriptive and inferential statistical analyses, and presenting research findings. The course offers one-on-one support, ample opportunities to work with other students, and training in the skills required to complete a project of your own design. These skills will prepare you to work in many different research labs across the University that collect empirical data. It is also an opportunity to fulfill an important requirement in several different majors.

ASTR111Z

MTWRF
3:00PM - 5:00PM
7:00PM - 9:00PM

Edward Moran
In Person

The Dark Side of the Universe

The physical world we experience is one of normal matter, energy, and -- if one looks up at night -- stars. But on larger scales, the universe has an exotic and much-less-well-understood side dominated by things we call dark matter, dark energy, and black holes. What are these mysterious components, and what is the relationship between them and the world that is familiar to us? The answers lie at the frontier of modern astrophysics. In this course, we explore the evidence for the existence of these dark components and the current debates regarding their nature and origin. In different ways, each of them has a vital role in the evolution of the universe and its ultimate fate.

**PSYC354Z/
EDST354Z**

MTWRF
9:30AM - 11:30AM
12:30PM - 2:30PM

Steven Stemler
Online

Seminar on Intelligence and Creativity

What does it mean to be smart? Who decides whether something or someone is creative? The answers to these questions are of great consequence as they often determine who gets access to scarce resources. This course will introduce students to some of the most vibrant and lively debates in the fields of intelligence and creativity. Our goal will be to discuss relevant theories and evaluate empirical data associated with various perspectives and approaches to understanding these important constructs. In addition, students will gain familiarity with and critically evaluate how intelligence and creativity are measured, as well as the usefulness of different measures for predicting the success of individuals

ENVS105Z

MTWRF
9:30AM - 12:00PM
1:00PM - 2:00PM

Kate Miller
ONLINE

Plant Communities of New England

Students will become familiar with diverse plant communities of various New England ecosystems. Fundamentals of plant structure, physiology, reproduction, ecology, and evolution will be applied to studies of key native species. We will also explore community interactions, the role and impact of disturbance, invasive species and strategies in conservation. The course will provide students with foundational information traditionally associated with introductory botany courses. Specific New England plant communities and species will be cited as exemplars, with an emphasis on terrestrial angiosperms. Species and communities will generally be from four New England ecosystems of interest: Northern Mountains, Temperate Deciduous Forest (of S. New England), Atlantic Pine Barrens region (Outer Cape Cod), and natural and managed early succession habitats throughout. While this is a lecture course and there is no formal lab, you will still have some field and lab activities to provide hands-on observation and application of information. In addition to individual work, there is one group project and group activities during class. Over break, students will plant seeds and observe and record their germination. Seeds, directions, and access to an online journal will be provided by the instructor before the end of fall term. Students must procure a magnifying glass or hand lens for this work and for additional work throughout the class (capable of 10x).

COMP112Z

MTWRF
8:00AM - 10:00AM
12:00PM - 2:00PM

Kelly Thayer
Online

Introduction to Programming

This course will provide an introduction to imperative programming including a discussion of variables, basic control structures, and functions, with other topics as time permits. The lectures will also discuss a variety of algorithms as well as program design issues. The language is typically a standard high-level language like Java or Python, but the choice is up to the instructor, and may differ between different COMP 112 sections.

PSYC326Z/

NS&B326Z

MTWRF

10:00AM - 12:00PM

2:00PM - 04:00PM

Matthew Kurtz

Online

History of the Brain

The course is designed to trace the people, experiments, social forces, and ideas that have helped shape the legacy of current neuroscientific knowledge. The course will be broken up into five parts: Part one will look at Ancient Egyptian, and Classical Greek and Roman conceptions of brain function. Part two will investigate methodological advances in the study of electricity and cell-staining techniques -- both developed in the 18th-19th century -- that paved the way for novel ways of looking at brain function and human behavior and how these new conceptualizations impacted the culture at large. Part three will investigate the history of assigning specific cognitive, emotional and behavioral function to specific structures in the brain. Part four will link developments in neuroscientific study with their impact (both positive and ill) on the treatment and care of people with psychiatric and neurological illness from the 19th-century to the present day. Part five will present a summing up and an overview of contemporary models of brain and mind.

PSYC214Z

MTWRF

9:30AM - 11:30AM

1:00PM - 03:00PM

Royette Dubar

Online

Research Methods in Sleep Research

Have you ever read about a published study and wondered where the authors got the idea for their research study? Have you ever thought about how researchers decide on which participants to select and what questions to ask of their study participants? How can we assess the value of a theoretical idea based on empirical evidence? And why might there be conflicting results when researchers study the same phenomenon? This course is designed to help students explore these and other questions related to research methods in psychology, with a focus on sleep research. Through a series of interactive lectures and hands-on class activities that complement the assigned textbook chapter readings, you will acquire the necessary skill set to critique, interpret, and design psychological research. The intensive nature of winter courses (10 classes, 4 hours each) requires that students are fully engaged with the material and will keep up with all assigned readings (~2 textbook chapters and 1 assigned empirical article per class). Course content will be grounded within the field of sleep health research, with an emphasis on quantitative research methods and design. You will be expected to apply your knowledge of research methods in psychology by designing an original research study on a sleep-related topic of your choice.

THEA265Z

MTWRF
6:00PM - 10:00PM

Maria-Christina
Oliveras

Online
Student Option

Acting for the Camera: Techniques in Securing Work in Film, Television and Theater

This studio course will explore the fundamentals of acting for the camera. A wide range of exercises and techniques will be used to cultivate a sense of ease and freedom and to develop the imagination, relaxation, concentration, focus and technical skills required to create life in front of the camera. The course will explore film, television and theater, and include auditioning and current industry film/TV practices via self-tapes and Zoom. By the end of the course, students will have honed techniques enabling them to bring their full selves to the camera with confidence and a lack of self-consciousness, and be familiar with self-tapes, auditioning, and current industry practices and protocols in the film/TV/theater industry. There will also be a unit of finding job opportunities in the industry.

PSYC214Z

TWRF
9:00AM - 12:00PM
1:00PM - 3:00PM

Jennifer D'Andrea
Online

The Psychology of Happiness

Positive psychology is the study of human happiness. The field has compiled an enormous research base offering evidence of the fundamental components of well-being and flourishing. While former work used a narrow, Western definition of happiness, the discipline later broadened its focus to include traditionally Eastern concepts such as social harmony and compassion. More recently, the field has been redefined through second-wave and third-wave positive psychologies, both of which seek to break free from the binary concepts of "positive" and "negative" in favor of a dialectic approach, while utilizing concepts of flourishing through suffering found in indigenous psychology, and including models for systemic change found in social work, sociology, and economics. This course will trace the history and development of positive psychology from its inception to the current state of the field, using a positive psychology text supplemented by journal articles. Core concepts will be discussed and critiqued. It will require students to keep a "flourishing journal" and complete out-of-class activities for personal reflection upon and practice of individual experiences of happiness. Additional course requirements include shorter and longer reflection papers, in-class discussion, and a final project. (This course is being offered as a blend of synchronous class meetings and asynchronous work involving small group discussions.)

**THEA222Z/COL235Z/
MDST224Z/RL&L222Z**

TWRF
10:00AM - 12:30PM
2:00PM - 4:30PM

Ronald Jenkins
Online

Reimagining Dante's Inferno: Social Justice and the Arts

Sentenced to death for crimes he did not commit, Dante Alighieri wrote his epic poem about a journey from hell to heaven in an impoverished state of exile. Combining autobiography and cinematic writing techniques Dante denounced political corruption and social injustice in a story that has inspired artists through the world to create new work about the search for freedom, including the Russian dissident poet Osip Mandelstam, Black revolutionary playwright Amiri Baraka, the Chinese artist/activist Wei Wei, and 17th-century prisoners of the Inquisition. Students will read selected cantos from Dante's *Commedia*, consider contemporary equivalents of medieval injustice, examine previous adaptations of the poem, and devise their own responses to Dante in a form of their choice (prose monologue, poetry, playwriting, rap, music, song, spoken-word, drawing, painting, visual

**COL375Z/HIST275Z/
QAC205Z**

MTWRF
10:00AM - 12:00PM
2:00PM - 04:00PM

Jesse Torgerson
In Person

Building a Relational Database: Introduction to Historical Research Data

This course empowers students to become not only readers of history but creators of historical data, new scholars actively seizing the current digital history moment as an occasion to break down history's myths through the activities of research, datafication, and analysis. The digital age -- even the advent of GenAI -- has changed nothing fundamental about the practice of historical research. But it could: the digital age is an opportunity for scholars to act as agents of change. This winter course focuses on the role of data in existing historical practices. Our series of focused workshops and targeted research investigations will enact and enable new methods and practices of history. Targeted readings address current theories and methods for working with the range of historical source materials: moth-eaten archives, curated library collections, digitizations, and digital-born objects. We will then get right to work on practices and your own research projects. Students will set up an archival relational database through the web-based tool Nodegoat. They will finish the session by curating their own historical archive, which they will codify as a relational database, and then explore development through further research or publication.

**AMST244Z/LAST244Z/
HIST244Z**

MTWR
10:00AM - 12:00PM
2:00PM - 5:00PM

Roberto Saba
Online

Imagining the End: Neoliberalism and the Arts

Many of us now like to paraphrase the philosopher Frederic Jameson when he argued that it has become "easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism." As the recent deluge of post-apocalyptic movies and documentaries about melting glaciers makes clear, this is an accurate statement. Yet while most of us imagine how neoliberal capitalism will bring about the end of the world, others try to imagine the end of the status quo. Since neoliberalism became the global hegemonic system, artists of all kinds have been imagining ways we can survive and (perhaps) overcome it: think about the songs of Tracy Chapman or Residente, the street art of Keith Haring or Lady Pink, the movies of Chloe Zhao or Alejandro González Iñárritu, or the writings of Ursula Le Guin or Roberto Bolaño. This course explores how engaged art from the 1970s to the present has responded to -- and fought against -- neoliberal hegemony in the United States, Latin America, and beyond. Through the arts, we will explore the nightmares of global collapse and the dreams of a new egalitarian and sustainable society. In addition to analyzing movies, poems, short stories, songs, and street art, we will read theoretical and historical studies that help us understand how neoliberalism shapes contemporary culture and

**EDST241Z/
ENGL235Z/**

MTWRF
10:00AM - 12:00PM
2:00PM - 04:00PM

Indira Karamcheti
In Person

Children's Literature

Probably the first literature we fall in love with, children's literature shapes individuals and cultures in profound ways, giving us ways of seeing and understanding the world, investing us with important mythologies, and guiding our identities and behaviors. But who or what is a child? Who creates "children's literature" and what is a child's relationship with it? "Literature," in this case, is often pictorial as much as literate. Our intensive Winter session class will begin with definitions of the child, using images as well as historical and scholarly discussions, then move to an examination of picture books. Illustrations and fairy tales both guide lessons in literacy and language skills, and illuminate the world the child is entering. Next, we examine three authors from the golden age of children's literature in the U.S.: Louisa May Alcott, Mark Twain, and Frances Hodgson Burnett. The course moves into the twentieth century with Laura Ingalls Wilder's creation of the American frontier mythology -- and Louise Erdrich's answer to it. We conclude with Christopher Curtis's *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* and J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter*: a specific history of the U.S., and the allure of historical nostalgia.

ENGL297Z

MTRF

10:00AM - 12:00PM

1:30PM – 04:30PM

Barbara McClintock

In Person**Creating Children's Books**

The goal of the course is to introduce and begin to develop the skills necessary to create stories and sequential art specifically aimed at young readers, and produce a written story and small dummy book that could eventually be developed into a picture book submission to a publisher if the student chooses to pursue publication of their story idea. In an industry that welcomes unique voices and styles, there are underlying guidelines that inform children's literature and typically apply to most picture books. The course will cover specific considerations for writing manuscripts for children as well as the creation, style, layout, and pacing of sequential art for picture books. By looking at, reading, and analyzing picture books -- both current titles and classics from the past -- and reading about the work process of published authors and illustrators, students will examine the elements that help create compelling narratives, engaging characters, and memorable themes. In addition to studying the craft of effective storytelling, we'll look at how imagery reinforces and expands the narrative through the use of dynamic elements like scale, perspective, texture, line, color, lighting and pattern. We'll also take a look at the business of publishing. There will be a visit, in person or virtual, by a publishing professional -- an editor or literary agent -- to discuss what expectations are for manuscript and dummy book submissions, current trends in book proposals being bought by publishing houses, the business of publishing, and what their jobs entail beyond editing books for young readers. The class will operate in a workshop format with group feedback and support on story concepts and development,

**COL227Z/
ENGL228Z /
WRCT227Z**

MTWRF

10:00am – 12:00pm

2:00pm – 4:00pm

Charles Barber

In Person**Life Writing: Writing about the Self and from Experience**

This course will examine both the power and the complexities of writing that derives from personal experience. Topics to be addressed, in turn, are memory (and its reliability); experience (authoritative/reportorial vs. interpretative/symbolic); identity and voice of the narrator; and agency (the degree to which the narrator is in control, or not in control, of the narrative). Types of life writing that will be explored are coming-of-age narratives, illness and trauma narratives, confessional narratives, autobiographical poetry and song lyrics, and interviews/oral histories. Readings and materials include William Styron, Mary Karr, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Malcolm X, Donna Tartt, and others.

SOC151Z

MTWR

January 6 – 8 12- 15, 19

10:00am – 12:00pm

2:00pm – 5:00pm

Courtney Patterson-Faye

Online**Introductory Sociology**

This course is an intensive introduction to the systematic study of the social sources and social consequences of human behavior, with emphasis on culture, social structure, socialization, institutions, group membership, social conformity, and social deviance.

**CSPL135Z/
CIS135Z****January 6****Online**

12:00pm – 2:00pm

January 18, 19, 20**In person**

9:30am - 12:30pm

1:30pm - 4:30pm

David Teva

Introduction to Mindfulness

In this retreat-style, experiential course, students delve into a set of practices meant to cultivate self-awareness, alleviate the impact of the stress response, and move attention to the present moment. During this 10-day class on contemplative practices, students will be introduced to various individual and relational techniques developed to cultivate non-judgemental attention and self-awareness in the present moment, as well as metacognitive learning strategies.

IDEA111Z

MTWRF

4:00pm – 5:00pm

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Ben Parker

In Person**Origami Mechanisms: The Science and Math of Folding**

Explore the cutting edge of origami sciences! Origami as a research field is the science of folding materials - not just paper - and has applications in material sciences, space exploration, the biomedical field, protein folding, and many more! Anytime a material has to be transported in a closed state, transported, and then deployed, origami studies have a relevance.

The course will involve folding, lectures, videos, guest video presenters, and time using the equipment of the IDEAS Lab to produce work. There will be one minor and one major project due that will use techniques learned during these class sessions.

Course is 40 hours over two weeks (20 hrs/wk or 4 hours per day 5 days/week)

**AMST301Z/ANTH301Z/
STS308Z**

MTWRF
1:00PM - 5:00PM

Valentina Ramia
In Person

Immigration and the Politics of Fear

This course will examine the role of fear in shaping ideas about immigrants. We start from the notion that emotions are social formations with particular histories and political significance. Therefore, we will refrain from assuming that fear is nothing more than a feeling or an automatic response and instead take it as a site that allows us to examine how psychological and legal discourses together define and dispute what is normal, reasonable, credible, plausible, real, appropriate, and timely. The seminar will cover themes such as risk and threat, race and origin, pain and injury, confession and testimony, fiction and figuration, and personhood and representation. We will look at newspaper articles, social media content, legal opinions, case law, court transcripts, and psychological evaluations, as well as texts in politics, anthropology, sociology, philosophy, literature, comics, and films. Students will write a short essay on the politics of fear. Throughout the course, they will develop their toolkit to critically reflect on an emotion of their choice.

BIOL265Z

MTWRF
10:00AM - 12:00PM
2:00PM - 4:00PM

Michael Weir
In Person

Bioinformatics Programming

This course is an introduction to bioinformatics and programming for students with interest in the life sciences. It introduces problem areas and conceptual frameworks in bioinformatics. The course assumes little or no prior programming experience and will introduce the fundamental concepts and mechanisms of computer programs and examples (e.g., sequence matching and manipulation, database access, output parsing, dynamic programming) frequently encountered in the field of bioinformatics. MB&B/BIOL181 or POI: Those not meeting the prerequisite should contact the professor directly.

Pre Reqs: MB&B/BIOL181 - Those not meeting the prerequisite should contact the professor directly.

BIOL215Z

MTWRF

10:00AM - 12:00PM

2:00PM - 04:00PM

Sonia Sultan

Online**Bioinformatics Programming**

Human activities have dramatically altered natural environments, and have even created entirely novel ecosystems such as farms and cities. How do these changes affect the evolution of animal and plant populations? In contrast to the traditional view that evolution takes place over millions of years, 21st-century scientists have been astonished to observe that rapid, human-caused environmental changes can lead to evolution in just a few short generations. Can the process of adaptive evolution keep up with the rapid pace of human-caused environmental change and allow species to cope with new conditions? What factors can promote "evolutionary rescue," and what may constrain it in different types of organisms?

For more information or to request a Prereq Override for Intro Bio, please contact Prof. Sonia Sultan (sesultan@wes).