

Winter Session 2027 Course Catalog

Alpha by course title

As of 10/15/26 – Courses and Modes are tentative and subject to change

QAC201Z/GOVT201Z/NS&B280Z/PSYC2 80Z

Online Section

Instructor: Emmanuel Kaparakis
Schedule: Monday-Friday, 5:30PM-
9:30PM

In-Person Section

Instructor: Valerie Nazzaro
Schedule: Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-
NOON, 1:00PM-3:00PM

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.

ANTH205Z

Mode: online course
Instructor: George Bajalia
Schedule: 4 days / week (TBA), 9:00AM-
11:00AM, 12:30-2:20PM

Borderlands in the African Mediterranean and Beyond

The past decade has seen one of the largest mobilizations of human migration in recent history. This migratory flow is usually discussed within spatial frames such as movement across borders, between countries, and across the sea. This course departs from those narratives by bringing into focus the routes, social worlds, and systems of exchange that emerge during time spent between

borders, a time often eclipsed as "just waiting." The beginning of the course sets the theoretical tone for our readings and discussions by revisiting how anthropology has questioned the stability of the linkage between culture and space, and placing this into the context of scholarship on liminality and borderlands. Subsequently, we will examine ethnographic studies, as well as some literary texts, that focus on migration and immigration primarily across the African Mediterranean, with comparative examples drawn from South and North America and Western Asia. The course's goal is to trace the communal sentiments enmeshed in these routes and worlds and to inquire what they may imply for political and subjective belonging, beyond narratives centered on the anxieties that emerge once "migrants" enter into European and North American territories.

BIOL265Z/MB&B265Z/COMP113Z/CIS265Z

Prereq: MB&B 181

Mode: in person course

Instructor: Michael Weir

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-NOON, 2:00PM-4:00PM

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.

ASLD101Z

Mode: in person course

Instructor: Pedro Pascual

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-
NOON, 1:00PM-2:00PM

Elementary American Sign Language I

This course is the first (1st) of six American Sign Language (ASL) courses encompassing two terms for Elementary, two for Intermediate, and two for Advanced. The two Elementary ASL courses are an introduction to communication in ASL. You will acquire a beginner's vocabulary and grammar while starting to build a preliminary understanding of the Deaf perspective on life. The course will be taught primarily in ASL and with clarifications in written English as needed. Interactive activities in class and homework assignments will provide you with ample opportunities to practice communication in ASL as much as possible. Because of the absence of a standardized written system for ASL, you will complete many of the assignments by recording yourself on video. We will use ASL for class interactions and, when appropriate, written English. Interactive class activities and homework assignments will provide the students with ample opportunities to practice communication in ASL. Because there is no standardized written system for ASL, video is the primary format for most assignments.

BIOL215Z/ENVS 210Z

Prereq: BIOL 182 or MBB 182 (contact Prof Sultan for prerequisite override requests)

Mode: online course

Instructor: Sonia Sultan

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-
NOON, 1:00PM-3:00PM

Evolution in a Changing World

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 organism?

FILM 448Z Mode: in person course
Instructor: Benjamin Meyer
Schedule: Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-
NOON, 1:00PM-5:00PM

Directing Actors for the Camera (POI)
(FILM 307, FILM 304, POI)

The actor is arguably the most important instrument in the director's arsenal for storytelling. This course aims to give students a set of tools to draw on when facing the actual task of telling a story through a lens with performers. Through discussions and exercises, we'll cover script analysis, casting, rehearsing, staging, framing, editing, and more. Emphasis will be on creating strategies for getting the desired performance. Students will be acting in scenes as well as directing them. The goal throughout is to demystify all elements and for each student to understand better what kind of director they want to be. The instructor has been a member of the Directors Guild of America since 1990 and a member of the Writers Guild of America since 1985. As director, writer, and producer, he has credits on over 500 episodes of television. Smartphones with cameras are strongly recommended and will be used for class exercises.

GRST279Z/COL279Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Martin Baeumel

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-
NOON, 1:30PM-3:30PM

**Good, Evil, Human: German Fairy Tales
and Their Cultural Impact**

The collected folk tales of Wilhelm and Jacob Grimm have had a substantial impact on the cultural history of Germany and beyond. Deceptively simple, these little texts communicate and negotiate extraordinarily important and complicated messages about what it means to be human, to behave in acceptable ways, to have and control unwelcome desires, and to (be able to) imagine a better world. We will read selected fairy tales from the Grimm collection and other texts, investigate the historical context in which the Grimms undertook their ambitious project, learn about ways in which scholarship has framed fairy tales, and discuss adaptations of the fairy-tale tradition in films and texts of the 20th century.

PSYC326Z/NS&B326Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Matthew Kurtz

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-
NOON, 2:00PM-4:00PM

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.

AMST244Z/HIST244Z/LAST244Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Roberto Saba

Schedule: Monday-Thursday, 10:00AM-NOON, 2:00PM-5:00PM

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 makes art into one of the few areas in which dissent can be expressed.

CSPL135Z/CIS135Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: David Leipziger Teva

Schedule: 9 days: Jan 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 10:00AM-12:15PM

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-judgmental attention and self-awareness in the present moment, as well as metacognitive learning strategies.

COMP112Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Kelly Thayer

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 8:00AM-10:00AM, NOON-2:00PM

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.

151ZSOC

Mode: online course

Instructor: Courtney Patterson-Faye

Schedule: Monday-Thursday, 10:00AM-
NOON, 1:30PM-4:30PM

COLXXXZ/HISTXXXZ/PHILXXXZ/

Mode: online course

Instructor: Hadel Jarada

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-
NOON, 1:00PM-3:00PM

Introductory Sociology

This course is an 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.

Islam and the Modern World

"What does it mean to be Muslim today? What understandings and ways of thinking have Muslims brought to the modern world? "

Over the past two centuries, Muslim thinkers have confronted colonialism and empire, science and secularism, democracy and dictatorship, feminism and patriarchy, revolution and political violence. They have disagreed—often dramatically—over what Islam is, who has the authority to interpret it, and what role it should play in modern life. These disagreements have only increased in the present day.

In this intensive Winter Session course, we will encounter some of the most provocative (and at times dissident) Muslim thinkers of the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries. We will ask whether Islam must be reformed to meet the modern world, or whether the modern world itself requires critique. Can reason and revelation coexist? Is Islam compatible with democracy? What makes a revolution Islamic? Can Islam be feminist? Who has the right to interpret the Qur'an? What happens when

Muslims question inherited religious authority? And what might Islamic thought look like in the future? Rather than treating “Islam” as a single position or set of beliefs, we will encounter modern Islamic thought as a field of intense disagreement over freedom, gender, politics, knowledge, religious authority, and the meaning of religion itself.

ENVS200Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Anthony Cummings

Schedule: Monday-Thursday, 9:00AM-NOON and 1:00PM-3:30PM

Swidden Systems and Agriculture

Swidden agriculture is the oldest food production system in the world. Often referred to as shifting cultivation and several other terms, the practice is critical to supporting human populations and wildlife populations in areas of the world that are frequently referred to as underdeveloped or impoverished. Yet, the continued success of swidden systems is critical to the survivability of some of the planet’s most treasured biodiversity, in addition to safeguarding the knowledge systems and age-old practices that are held by its practitioners. In this class, we will explore the history of swidden systems, the reasons why they have been a success, the reasons why several national governments have designed policies to reduce the prevalence of the practice and make projections on what the future of the practice may look like. In our examination of the status of swidden systems on a global scale, we will take time off to visit localized examines of swidden and explore how the resources held within swidden systems relate to wildlife and larger pools of biodiversity that are critical to our planet sustainability.

CSPL224Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Nadejda Marques

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-
NOON, 1:00PM-3:00PM

Migration, Public Health and Human Rights

How do migration policies affect public health? How do human rights principles apply to current public health and migration challenges? This course seeks to address these and other related questions by examining the intersection of public health, migration policy, and human rights standards. We do so by examining a series of case studies that consider the underlying issues from a variety of disciplines including economics, sociology, law, policy analysis, public health, and political science. Through this course, students will develop a critical understanding of the contemporary landscape and potential policy responses to promote public health, and human rights in the international migration space.

IDEA111Z/CODES111Z

Mode: in person course

Instructor: Ben Parker

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 4:00PM-
5:00PM, 6:00PM-9:00PM

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)

MUSC 249Z/WRCT29Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Jane Alden

Schedule: 9:30AM-NOON, 2:00PM-4:30PM on 1/5, 1/7, 1/9, 1/11, 1/13, 1/15, 1/17, and 1/18

Public Writing: Music Journalism and Arts Criticism (POI)

The internet has revolutionized how people consume music, how they read and write about it. This course will offer an introduction to music journalism as a practice of public musicology, one that has become central to contemporary life. Students will analyse and apply techniques used to write about music for the wider public, learn how to develop ideas, sharpen critical skills, and complete a series of reporting assignments. We will look at the history and function of music criticism, assess different kinds of music writing, discuss changing perceptions of music as a public art-form, and the role of journalism in cultural preservation. The class will write and collaboratively edit a series of reviews, and make a short radio feature in collaboration with WESU (88.1FM). The reviews will focus on recordings, live events, and books on musical cultures. Students will have the opportunity to engage with professional music writers, which will help to prepare them for later work in music journalism, or in arts or media organizations.

PSYC295Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Jennifer D'Andrea

Schedule: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00AM-NOON, 1:00PM-3:00PM

The Science 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.

PSYC354Z/EDST354Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Steven Stemler

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-11:00AM, 12:00PM-2:00PM

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 and organizations.

PSYC/343Z

Mode: in person course

Instructor: Royette Dubar

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 9:30AM-11:30AM, 1:30PM-3:30PM

Sleep & Psychosocial Functioning in Youth

This course is designed to orient students to the fascinating world of sleep and psychosocial functioning, with a focus on the adolescent and emerging adulthood years. We will explore how sleep relates to various aspects of psychosocial functioning, including cognitive development (e.g., memory), emotional well-being (e.g., mental health), social adjustment (e.g., social media use), and cultural contexts (e.g., race-ethnicity). The content for this course is primarily based on published empirical research and theory. The seminar format of this course is designed to facilitate a dynamic and interactive learning environment and requires active participation from all students.

GOVT279Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Basak Kus

Schedule: 8 days: Jan 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 10:00AM-NOON, 5:00PM-8:00PM

State and Society

Every aspect of our lives is shaped by the state. What exactly is it, the modern state? How has it come to be? From where does it derive its legitimacy? How has its involvement in social and economic life evolved over time, and varied cross-nationally? In what ways is American statecraft is considered "exceptional"? In this class we will seek answers to these questions, and on the way, we will learn about welfare states, penal states, racial states, straight states,

submerged states, authoritarian states, and strong and weak states.

MUSC278Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Noah Baerman

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 3:30PM-5:45PM with additional asynchronous work

Survey of Jazz Styles

This course is a study of how jazz works, developing the awareness and tools that allow us to understand and evaluate what we are hearing when we listen to live or recorded jazz--how and why the musicians do what they do and the larger context into which a performance fits. We explore historical developments and chronology, the structures that govern jazz improvisation and other performance practices and the instrument roles and sub-styles that typically make up the music. Though there will be ample relevant information for musicians, a background in music theory or performance is not at all necessary for this course.

THEA236Z/FGSS233Z/ENGL255Z/DANC 236Z

Mode: online course

Instructor: Katie Brewer Ball

Schedule: Monday-Friday, 12:00PM-4:00PM

Writing the Body

How does the body write? Do we trace our words with fingers and toes, with a pen and paper, with flour or glitter or dust or the soles of our feet? Can the written word remind us that we are more than our eyes or our heads? Writing the body is an attempt to link the worlds of the written and the somatic through the act of writing. This class is both a generative creative writing course and a theoretical exploration of the ways in which the body has been rendered in literature, poetry, and philosophy. Putting queer studies, disability studies, Black studies, and Indigeneous studies into conversation with prose, plays, poetry, students will explore different strategies of embodied

writing. Looking to the work of Maggie Nelson, Jean-Luc Nancy, Eileen Myles, Christina Sharpe, Aisha Sabatini Sloan, Hortense Spillers, Eve Tuck, Billy Ray Belcourt, Torrey Peters, Wendy Ortiz, Lidia Yuknavitch, Jordy Rosenberg, Gabrielle Civil, Ursula Le Guin, adrienne maree brown, and Frank O'Hara students will produce a written work that moves promiscuously between theory and creative nonfiction.