

Honors College Spring 2020 Schedule

Course	Core	Title	Credits	Day	Time	Location	Professor
ANTH 210.001	12	Honors Cultural Anthropology	3	TR	9:30-10:45am	LA 3314	Nicole Fabricant
ART 146.001	4	Honors Drawing for Non-Art Majors	3	M	9:00am-12:50pm	CA 4001	Amanda Burnham
BIOL 117.001	7 or 8	Honors Biology: Science of Life	4	TR	8:00-9:15am	SM 340	Faith Weeks
				F	10:00-11:50am	SM 305	
DFST 114.001	5	Honors American Sign Language 1	3	MWF	10:00-10:50am	VB 110	Jason Begue
ENGL 190.001	2	Honors Writing Seminar	3	TR	3:30-4:45pm	LA 2201	Kevin Murphy
Exploration of issues and critical methods vital to a liberal education. Development of strategies for effective writing. Emphasis on student essays and reports. Not open to those who successfully completed ENGL 102. Requires grade of C or better to fulfill Gen Ed or Core requirement.							
ENGL 190.002	2	Honors Writing Seminar	3	TR	11:00am-12:15pm	LA 3302	Andrew Reiner
Exploration of issues and critical methods vital to a liberal education. Development of strategies for effective writing. Emphasis on student essays and reports. Not open to those who successfully completed ENGL 102. Requires grade of C or better to fulfill Gen Ed or Core requirement.							
ENGL 290.001	5	Honors Seminar in Literature: Rhetoric and Love	3	MWF	9:00-9:50am	LA 5331	Carol Quinn
In this course we will study rhetoric, which is the use of written or spoken language to persuade, through the lenses of the literature, philosophy, and contemporary poetry. Often, we will consider how a speaker or protagonist determines the boundaries of self and other in love. Additionally, we will also consider issues pertaining to interpersonal power in love, the limits of the self, rhetorical strategies and fallacies, and the ethics of persuasion. ENGL 290 ONLY counts as an Honors seminar if the student has successfully completed ENGL 190 or a different topic of ENGL 290 or if the student is exempt from the Honors English requirement. ENGL 290 may be repeated for a maximum of 6 units.							
ENGL 290.002	5	Honors Seminar in Literature: Novels and Films of Jane Austen	3	TR	11:00am-12:15pm	LA 5316	Carol Pippen
This course will focus on the writings of Jane Austen in novels and films in a discussion-based class. Participants will read five novels, Pride and Prejudice, Sense and Sensibility, Emma, Persuasion, and Northanger Abbey. They will also write papers on each work, give oral reports, conduct occasional research, participate in all class discussions, and be offered the opportunity to extend their reading of shorter, earlier work. ENGL 290 ONLY counts as an Honors seminar if the student has successfully completed ENGL 190 or a different topic of ENGL 290 or if the student is exempt from the Honors English requirement. ENGL 290 may be repeated for a maximum of 6 units.							
ENGL 290.003	5	Honors Seminar in Literature: The Awakening	3	TR	3:30-4:45pm	LA 5313	Sharon Becker
This class will explore the complex relationship between rebellion, freedom, and mental illness in 20th and 21st century American literature by and/or about women. Whether officially diagnosed or deemed "crazy" by family, friends, or society, the characters in the novels, novellas, and short stories we'll read this semester find themselves living outside of cultural norms and experiencing various consequences for their actions. Genres will include classic fiction, popular literature, and graphic novels with the possible inclusion of film as well. No prerequisites required. ENGL 290 ONLY counts as an Honors seminar if the student has successfully completed ENGL 190 or a different topic of ENGL 290 or if the student is exempt from the Honors English requirement. ENGL 290 may be repeated for a maximum of 6 units.							
HIST 148.101	11	HONR History U.S. Since Civil War	3	MW	5:00-6:15pm	LA 4204	Akim Reinhardt

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HONR 225.001	4	Honors Seminar in Creativity: Writing for the Environment	3	TR	2:00-3:15pm	YR 133	Benjamin Warner
<p>This course asks students to think critically about what it means to write about the environment—the “wild” spaces of woods and waterways; the environment as developed by humans (both indoors and the tamed spaces of farms and gardens); and influences of the world of technology on both. By looking at texts ranging from the poetry of Mary Oliver and Gary Snyder, to the essays of Barry Lopez, Marybeth Holleman, and Bijal Trivedi, to film and advertisements, students will observe how representations of natural and man-made worlds shift through the stylistic choices of writers, artists, filmmakers, and social critics. This class is also designed to place students in a workshop setting, where they will practice their own “environmental writing” and have that work discussed critically by members of the class. The semester will culminate with students taking their understanding of environmental writing out into the community to engage with an environmental topic of their choice. The end result will be a creative project that demonstrates some of the notions of contemporary environmental writing as discussed in the course. HONR 225 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.</p>							
HONR 229.001	10	Honors Seminar in Metropolitan Perspectives	3	TR	12:30-1:45pm	YR 131	Jessica Shiller
<p>This course will help students take a more nuanced view of urban education in order to see the struggles in which reformers, teachers, parents, and students have fought for better urban schools. It is a rigorous, honors seminar that will require intense reading and writing as well as participation from students in order to gain insight into the recent series of reforms implemented in urban schools. Using Baltimore City Schools as a case study, the course will help students examine issues in a way which will dispel myths that parents don’t care and that students in urban schools are not doomed to failure.</p>							
HONR 345.001	14	Honors Seminar in Ethical Issues: Literature Ethics of Violence & Reconciliation	3	MW	2:00-3:15pm	LA 4211	Erin Fehskens
<p>How do writers represent sustained acts of violence? How do they also represent the possible and plausible conclusions to that violence? How do people relate to those who are different from them in violent and non-violent ways? In other words, how do acts of war, genocide, terrorism, and the attempts at recovery from them find their way into imaginative writing? In this course, we will take a historically and culturally comparative approach to answering these questions, considering the relationship between violence and reconciliation and the challenges that they pose to memory, representation, and cultural identity. We will evaluate the different strategies of reconciliation, from war crimes trials, to reparations, to Truth and Reconciliation commissions, and we will watch a documentary and read many different kinds of writing, including philosophy, fiction, memoir, graphic novel, and newspaper editorial. HONR 345 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered. You must be of Junior/Senior standing to take this course.</p>							
HONR 370.001		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: Positive Psychology	3	TR	9:30-10:45am	LA 3302	Christa Schmidt
<p>The purpose of this course is to expose students to the tenets of positive psychology and its applications in science and practice. Students in this course will learn about human happiness and subjective well-being, and their implications for work, relationships, physical health, and institutions. Students will be expected to actively apply the concepts learned in class to their own lives to fully understand the field. This course is taught as an honors seminar as it will allow students to think critically about research in the area of positive psychology and its application to diverse populations and settings. HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.</p>							
HONR 370.002		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: Home and the Human	3	TR	2:00-3:15pm	LA 4209	Jennifer Ballengee
<p>This course will notions of home and humanity, specifically considering the movements and struggles of individuals and groups of people forced to migrate due to the effects of war, conflict, climate change, and other natural, economic, or political disasters. Reading and discussing a range of texts (literary, historical, cultural, philosophical, and anthropological), we will pay attention to the human effects of fleeing one’s homeland because of disaster, from the actual physical destruction of bodies and places to the radical disruption of home and life. HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.</p>							
HONR 370.003		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: History of Native American Women	3	MW	12:30-1:45pm	LA4201	Akim Reinhardt
<p>History of Native American women from pre-contact to the present. The class will move chronologically, covering an array of topics ranging from Indigenous concepts of gender balance, women's roles in trade and diplomacy, facing and adapting to settler colonialism, resisting and coping with sexual violence and colonial assaults on culture and family structures, women's recent contributions to Native politics and the arts, and modern women's lives. Readings include historical scholarship, biographies, memoirs, and poetry. A heavy focus on discussion and writing. Very likely guest speaker(s). HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.</p>							

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HONR 370.004		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: History of the Beer Industry in Egypt	3	TR	11:00-12:15	LA 4201	Omar Foda
<p>This course connects, through the study of beer, the history of Egypt to Belgium, Netherlands, Britain, and elsewhere; the history of a business to developments in technology, politics, and consumer culture; and the history of the people – of “everyday Egyptians” – to business elites. It begins with the appearance of beer in the pharaonic Egypt and follows the beverage, and those who made it and drank it, until the present day. Students will engage with a variety of visual, literary, and auditory sources in order to animate this story. HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.</p>							
HONR 370.005		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: The Idea of the University	3	TR	9:30-10:45	LA 4316	Peter Baker
<p>The Idea of the University is a seminar that will look at the theory of the modern university from the German Romantics to modern literary theories. We will also examine how the production and transmission of knowledge depends on the division of knowledge into disciplines, with reference to Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies. Finally, we will look at the meaning of work in the contemporary university (professors, part-time instructors, students, staff) and the pressures from politicians and administrators to increase the productivity of the labor force. HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.</p>							
HONR 370.006		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: Impacts of Greek & Roman Mythology	3	TR	2:00-3:15pm	LA 2201	Anne Ashbaugh
<p>Education, Desire, Plato & Tragedians Plato conceives of human beings as desirers. So also do contemporary moral psychologists. Not only what we desire but how and why we desire impacts our wellbeing and determines whether we become autonomous agents or slavish followers, creators or copies. The capacity to desire well, furthermore, is neither innate nor easily acquired. Yet, in large measure, happiness and the opportunity for a good life depend on how we direct our urges and govern ourselves. Today, as in Plato’s time, we experience the force of peer pressure, persuasion in politics and advertisement, and generally, the saturation of the self through mass media. The means differ but the outcome remains the same: loss of self. Unlike Plato, we have lost touch with philosophy as a practice that educates desire, and we no longer have Tragedians to prepare our society for informed deliberation and self-rule. In our course we will study new perspectives by examining Plato’s various plans for the education of desire in four dialogues: Euthyphro, Republic (in part), Phaedrus, and Symposium. We will also study three tragedies: Aiskhylos’ Agamemnon, Sophokles’ Elektra, and Euripides’ Orestes (in Anne Carson’s translation collected in her book, An Oresteia). We will conclude the course analyzing Nietzsche’s concept of Amor Fati as a strategy for educating desire. HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.</p>							
HONR 370.007		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: Biology and Pop Culture	3	MW	10:00-11:15am	YR 133	Christa Partain
<p>This course will investigate how science & scientists have been portrayed in media culture from the scientific revolution to our own time. Various aspects of biology’s portrayal in the media will be discussed from a scientist’s perspective. We’ll consider the tensions between scientific experts and the lay public about core values, contemplate the search for fantastic creatures in an age of experimental proof, and probe how science fiction relates to science fact. Students will gain an awareness of how science is an aspect of the wider culture in different eras; analyze the historical roots of contemporary practices; and reflect on the ramifications of science and popular culture and the choice we make as individuals, social groups, and nations. From the first work of science fiction, Shelly’s Frankenstein, to Hollywood blockbusters like Contagion and World War Z, we will gain insight into the public understanding of science and the ideals we, as a culture, hold about science and its role in society. HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.</p>							
HONR 370.008		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: Psychology Law & Social Justice	3	M	10:00-12:40pm	LA 2150	Jeffrey Kukucka
<p>To date, over 1,600 cases of wrongful conviction have been discovered in the United States. On average, these individuals spent over nine years in prison for crimes of which they were innocent. The aims of this course are to (a) survey the myriad causes of wrongful conviction in the U.S. legal system, (b) explore the direct and indirect impact of wrongful conviction on the individual and society, and (c) critically examine the costs and benefits of various policy reforms aimed at preventing future miscarriages of justice. To that end, this course will cover a wide range of topics, including the fallibility of human memory; the science of interrogation and lie detection in police and homeland security contexts; special considerations for juvenile witnesses and offenders; the validity of forensic science evidence; the social psychology of the trial process; systemic misconduct in the criminal justice system; the effects of implicit racial bias; the science and ethics of capital sentencing; and exonerees’ experiences of reintegration and stigma. As such, this course will incorporate diverse perspectives and primary sources from the fields of psychology, law, criminal justice, sociology, political science, and forensic science, among others. HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.</p>							

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HONR 370.009		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: History of Infectious Diseases	3	MW	2:00-3:15pm	YR 133	Cynthia Ghent
Provide students with a basic understanding of microorganisms in general and how and/or why microorganisms cause disease in humans. Implications of human impact on the environment as it relates to emerging disease, relevant biotechnological techniques and ethical issues will be addressed. HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered.							
HONR 370.101		Honors Seminar in Advanced Topics: Changing Face of Masculinity	3	T	5:00-7:40pm	LA 4211	Andrew Reiner
Defining "masculinity" is as easy as trying to lasso the sea, and as productive: it's too slippery and monolithic a term to sum up in a few short sentences. As a concept, like femininity, it's fluid and evolving. That said, we can still get a handle on how the notion of masculinity has and hasn't changed over the course of this country's history. Through fiction, personal narrative, essays and film we will explore how the ideals and expectations of what it means to be a man has been created in the spheres where it plays itself out most clearly, most notably within the context of family, friendships, romance, sexuality, careers, sports and, of course, violence. We will look at masculinity as a concept in relation to feminism and across different racial and ethnic stratas. HONR 370 may ONLY be repeated provided a different topic is covered. This course is not open to students who successfully completed ENGL 290 The Changing Face of Masculinity.							
MATH 233.001	3	Honors Basic Statistics	3	MW	2:00-3:50pm	YR 102	Kari Schumm
PHIL 212.001	14	Honors Special Studies in Philosophy	3	MW	3:30-4:45pm	LA 2315	Makmiller Pedroso
POSC 212.001	11	Honors Seminar in Political Science: The Supreme Court	3	MW	2:00-3:15pm	LA 3209	Jonathan Hensley
SOCI 102.001	6	Honors Intro to Sociology	3	TR	12:30-1:45pm	LA 3314	Jason Freeman
THEA 102.001	4	Honors Acting I	3	TR	12:30-1:45pm	CA 3055	Donna Fox
TSEM 190.001	1	Honors Towson Seminar: ART Water	3	TR	2:00-3:15pm	CA 2033	Nancy Siegel
Visions of Water Course Description: The goal of this course is to trace the evolution of consciousness concerning the conservation and preservation of America's natural resources from 1600 to the present in American art through depictions and built environments of water, atmosphere, land inclusive of their use/abuse. Learning to "read" paintings, sculpture, and architecture as socio-political as well as aesthetics documents creates a larger context in which to discuss changing American ideologies as they relate to the environment.							
TSEM 190.002	1	Honors Towson Seminar: POSC Water	3	MWF	2:00-2:50pm	YR 131	Joseph Clark
Throughout human history, the Earth's oceans have acted as connective tissue between human societies. They have served, and continue to serve, as platforms for social exchange, economic commerce, and war. Historically, a society's relative success in these three activities created short and long-term political consequences at sea - and, more importantly on land. This pattern continues today.							
TSEM 190.003	1	Honors Towson Seminar: Political Economy of Water	3	TR	12:30-1:45pm	LA3201	Nicole Fabricant
Water is one of the most highly contested natural resources on our planet. This course takes a political economy approach in anthropology as a theoretical lens for thinking about basic rights to water, issues of governance and uneven forms of contamination and toxicity. We will interrogate the ways in which the expansion of extractive industries and pipeline construction have adversely affected Native Americans, poor Black and Latino communities and their access to clean and healthy drinking water. We take inspiration from social movements (particularly activists fighting against Mountaintop Coal Removal (MTR) in West Virginia and movements fighting against the Dakota Access pipeline who call themselves water warriors) as perhaps part of the collective solution to reclaiming rights to basic resources and rethinking modes/means of production. We end the course by thinking about the ways in which climate change is affecting critical water supplies throughout the globe and study the North/South movements that are calling for climate justice. Now more than ever there is a need to understand that market based solutions will not resolve the systemic and structural problems of the economy or the environment. By reading, thinking, and learning about extractive industries in West Virginia, students will begin to understand that the ecological and climactic crisis (and its links to non-renewable fossil fuels). This is one of the most pressing questions of our era. It is my great hope that students will put to use this toolkit of knowledge and begin to alter their consumptive lives and collectively mobilize to protect our scarce resources.							

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TSEM 190.004	1	Honors Towson Seminar: SOCI Water as a Global Problem	3	MWF	11:00-11:50am	LA 3216	Michael Elliott
<p>Here in Maryland, we don't worry about water very much. Water is everywhere and in great supply. Every time you turn on a faucet or use a drinking fountain, clean water comes out. Marylanders also have access to swimming pools, streams, rivers, and lakes for recreation, and there is ample water for farming and watering the grass. But, this is not the case in other parts of the United States, or other parts of the world. For some, water is a serious problem that affects local environments, urban development, political debates, as well as human health and safety. Throughout the semester, we will travel to different parts of the world and explore some of these important issues and debates. In the process, we will learn some basic college-level skills, such as how to: effectively participate in class discussions, read and evaluate different forms of evidence, engage in formal debates, and construct a scholarly research paper.</p>							
Seminars highlighted in yellow							

Honors College Summer 2020 Schedule (First Session May 26-June 29)

HONR 301.001	8	The Polluted States of America	3	TWR	2:00-4:50pm	YR 133	John Sivey
Seminars highlighted in yellow							