Humanitarianism and human rights activism are growing forms of action to alleviate social problems in our contemporary world. Young people, in particular, are inundated by appeals to participate in charitable efforts through social media networks. Through ethnographic case studies, this seminar will investigate the uses, significance, and limitations of such campaigns that harness human rights discourse in a variety of humanitarian initiatives. This course gives students the critical tools to study these campaigns and interventions as a political process with an array of diverse cultural actors and often unexpected outcomes.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm Manchester 017 Fall 2013

This seminar will explore the art, politics, and history of the avant-garde from the mid-19th century through the 1930s. The course will use readings from the text, class discussion, and analysis of works of art to gain an understanding of the genesis, evolution, and influence of avant-garde movements including Expressionism, Cubism, Futurism, and Dada.

MW 9:30 – 10:45 am Scales 103 Fall 2011

The objective of the course is to investigate: (1) Pre-Darwinian ideas regarding evolution; (2) creationism (and intelligent design); (3) the Darwinian theory of evolution; (4) Mendelian genetics and its role in the development of neo-Darwinian thinking; (5) the discovery of meiosis; (6) the condensation of Darwin/Mendel/meiosis ideas into the neo-Darwinian theory and genes/genetics by Walter Sutton in the early twentieth century; and (7) final development of the neo-Darwinian theory.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am Winston 221 Fall 2013
CRN: 86879
CITIZENSHIP: ANCIENT AND MODERN
Lecturer Brian Warren, Department of Classical Languages

Two civilizations in particular have shaped our understanding of political life and civic responsibility in deep and profound ways: Greece and Rome. We are heavily indebted to the ancient world for our ideas about not only the structure and operation of government but also what it means for the individual to be citizen and to act like one. This course will aid students in returning to the intellectual roots of our beliefs about citizenship. We will also investigate how classical history and literature influenced modern Western political thought, especially in the late medieval and early modern periods.

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm    Tribble A301    Fall 2013

CRN: 86852
COMMUNICATION, CULTURE AND SOUTH ASIA
Professor Ananda Mitra, Department of Communication

This course takes a critical look at the history, culture, politics and geography of South Asia with the goal of understanding how the people from that part of the world have an influence on global issues and how the cultures of South Asia are influenced by the process of globalization. The course requires occasional Sunday afternoon viewing of Bollywood movies.

MW 12:30 – 1:45 pm    Carswell 111    Fall 2013

CRN: 87770
EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE
Assistant Professor Ron Von Burg, Department of Communication / Humanities

Expressions of Love: Humans use “love” to describe relationships with people, animals, objects, art, knowledge, activities, self, and the divine. In each case, the meanings of “love” and its associations vary. This course explores the concept of “love” from rhetorical, cultural, social and philosophical perspectives to uncover love’s complex meaning in all walks of life.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm    Carswell 301    Fall 2013
CRN: 87800
ECONOMICS IN SPORTS
Visiting Assistant Professor Todd McFall, Department of Economics

In Economics in Sports, students will learn to use various tools of economics analysis to study questions from the sports world. Supply and demand analysis, game theory, and expected value techniques will be used to analyze issues like the formation of leagues, the public financing of stadiums, the measuring player performance, the strategies employed by competitors in different sports, the impact of technology on performance and strategy, and the effect that league rules regarding salary structure have on competition. Students will be expected to be willing to learn to use data in order to reach conclusions about various questions they will face. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to use economic modeling techniques to think more deeply about issues related to the sporting world and beyond.

MWF 10:00 – 10:50 am Carswell 118 Fall 2013

CRN: 86884
THINKING SERIOUSLY ABOUT SIX GREAT IDEAS
Professor Joseph Milner, Department of Education

This seminar is devoted to understanding Mortimer Adler’s Six Great Ideas: Truth, Goodness, Beauty, Liberty, Equality, and Justice which he explains thoroughly in everyday language. In addition, the seminar explores related literary and other texts to further clarify Adler’s ideas. It also asks students to bring to class related artifacts from contemporary discourse to help clarify their personal understanding.

MW 12:30 – 1:45 pm Tribble A207 Fall 2013

CRN: 86863
CHILDREN OF DIVORCE
Professor Linda Nielsen, Department of Education

This course will examine the ways in which their parents’ divorce affects children in our society. Students will debate and write about the various issues affecting children of divorce, such as: What are the best living arrangements for children after divorce? How and why does divorce benefit some children while it damages others? What can parents do to minimize the impact of their divorce?

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm Tribble A205 Fall 2013
CRN: 86883  
CREATIVITY, IMPERFECTION, AND THE NOW  
Lecturer Eric Ekstrand, Department of English

In this seminar we will try to figure out what creativity is and how to train in it. In addition to writing, reading and discussing often, we will engage in a variety of creative projects, as well as learn and work with a basic, secular meditation practice. The practical goal of this course is to learn in ways other than those that are purely analytical (social, emotional, improvisatory, narrative, moral, imaginative, physical, humorous, etc.) and to understand why this might be a value broadly.

WF 9:30 – 10:45 am  TBA  Fall 2013

CRN: 89893  
RELIGIOUS UTOPIAS AND THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE  
Professor Thomas Frank, Department of History

If you had some land, a few friends and followers, and a vision of a new society that lived up to all your highest spiritual ideals, what kind of community would you build? This course explores several religious groups in 19th century America and their efforts to create “religious utopias.” We explore how they answered basic questions that all societies face: How should men and women relate to each other? How should children be raised? What is the nature of work and how should it be rewarded? What kind of buildings does a society need, and how should they be designed and arranged? What is the place of education, arts, and music in a good society? Who has the authority to interpret and defend a religious ideal, and what should be done when others disagree? We then turn these questions toward contemporary American society and ask what we can learn from the successes and failures, hopes and dreams, of religious utopias.

W 3:00 – 5:30 pm  Tribble A104  Fall 2013

CRN: 87767  
“I LISTENED TO THAT SONG BEFORE IT WAS POPULAR:” HISTORICIZING THE HIPSTER  
Visiting Instructor Nathan Roberts, Department of History

This course investigates the history of the hipster in American life. It uses a number of cultural artifacts in diverse formats – such as film, literature, songs, advertisements, and visual art — to reveal how the many predecessors of the present-day hipster critiqued American mainstream culture during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As we analyze how counterculture critiques shaped U.S. social history, we will collectively assess the tensions in the United States over the composition of American identities. We will garner a greater understanding of the fears and anxieties with American life including the ways in which consumerism and counterculture have combined in our present moment to produce the image of the hipster.

MWF 1:00 – 1:50 pm  Tribble A103  Fall 2013
CODES AND CODEBREAKING: BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER WORLD WAR II
Professor Jim Kuzmanovich, Department of Mathematics

This seminar is a study of codes and codebreaking throughout history. It will contain both historical topics and mathematical topics that are relevant to making and breaking codes; hence the content of the course is a fifty-fifty split between history and mathematics. Historical and cultural topics will include early Muslim cultures, Mary Queen of Scots and the Babington plot, the Zimmermann Telegram and WWI, the breaking of the German and Japanese coding machines and WWII (this will be a major topic), and privacy and commerce in the Internet age. Mathematical topics will include random numbers, modular arithmetic, some statistical ideas, and the number theory necessary to understand modern public key cryptosystems.

MWF 2:00 – 3:15 pm Manchester 124 Fall 2013

DEATH
Assistant Professor Emily Austin, Department of Philosophy

Given that we will all someday die, it seems reasonable to spend at least a little time thinking about it in a structured manner. In this class, we will examine the topic of death from philosophical, historical, and sociological perspectives. Philosophical questions will include: is death always bad, and if so, what makes it bad? Are we immortal, and should we even desire immortality? Does death give life meaning, or rob it of meaning? Historical topics will include the rise of the hospital and the invention of the undertaker after the Civil War, both of which drastically changed the way Americans die and grieve. Since some sociologists think that Americans are the most death-denying culture in the history of the world, it might be interesting to determine whether they have a case. The instructor encourages you to not be turned away by the darkness of the topic, since she thinks it really will be fun and intellectually rewarding.

MW 12:30 – 1:45 pm Tribble A307 Fall 2013

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE
Professor Earl Crow, Department of Philosophy

A philosophical and historical examination of civil disobedience as a moral option. The students will read the writings of Thomas Aquinas, Henry Davis Thoreau, Martin Luther King, Jr., Daniel Berrigan, and other appropriate articles and authors and explore civil disobedience from Biblical time, through the Middle ages, to the Modern era. Emphasis will be placed on Research and reading, critical thought, oral presentations, and class discussions. Students will develop and defend philosophical positions.

MW 2:00 – 3:30 pm Wingate 209 Fall 2013
POWER AND THE U.S. ELECTRICAL GRID
Lecturer Jack Dostal, Department of Physics

The U.S. electrical grid harnesses the energy output of many different sources, (coal, hydro, nuclear, wind, solar, etc.) and delivers electrical power to the nation in real time. A functional, robust system for delivery of electrical power is critical to our daily lives; without it our lives would be turned upside down. Grid failure could occur due to general system failure, natural events, terrorism, or even a simple inability to meet increasing demand.

Students in this seminar will learn about the history and nature of our power grid and some of its underlying physics, study different types of power generation that tie into the grid, investigate alternative systems in other countries, and engage in discussion and writing about issues relevant to the present day and to the future of such systems.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am   Olin 103   Fall 2013

CRN: 87766
"PHYSBOOK AND BIOBOOK: REIMAGING ELECTRONIC TEXTBOOKS"
Associate Professor Jed Macosko, Department of Physics

Though science classrooms have been transformed by digital resources, science textbooks have fallen behind. Publishers move words and images to digital media and add movies and electronic quizzes, but students have been slow to adopt e-texts for good reason: they are no better than conventional books. In response, Wake Forest University faculty in biology, physics, and education have developed new learning platforms—PhysBook and BioBook. These learner-oriented platforms enable students to customize their learning experience. In this First Year Seminar we will be exploring the current state of PhysBook and BioBook and finding ways to improve them. As a class, we will discuss how people learn and how new electronic tools can best be harnessed to increase our learning.

TR 3:00 – 4:15 pm   Olin 206   Fall 2013

CRN: 89874
UNDERSTANDING STUFF: MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY HEADING INTO THE NEW MILLENIUM?
Professor Richard T. Williams, Department of Physics

Epochs of human progress have been labeled by the mastery of a new material enabling a major change of culture: Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age, and industrial (steel and carbon) age, for example. We are on the cusp of mastering new materials for information technology, transportation, energy, frightful weapons, genomics – or is it the other way around? As a species, we are suddenly in a position of being able to change the planet and change ourselves. Is that good or bad? What is the materials science that puts you in this position? How can you use it well?

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am   Olin 102   Fall 2013
CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES ON WAR AND PEACE
Professor Earl Crow, Department of Religion

The study of Christian Perspectives on War and Peace will include a survey of attitudes beginning with the early post-New Testament church, through the era of Constantine, the Middle Ages crusades, to modern Christian thought. Attention will be given to divergent views: Holy Wars, The Concept of Just Wars, and Christian Pacifism. Selected works by a wide-range of theologians and philosophers will be studied.

MW 12:30 – 1:45 pm Wingate 206 Fall 2013

CONTEMPLATIVE TRADITIONS: PAST & PRESENT
Professor Ulrike Wiethaus, Department of Religion

This First Year Seminar focuses on the ways that different cultures and religious traditions have developed contemplative practices throughout history. Special emphasis will be placed on the healing aspects of contemplation (personal, social, environmental), its potential for productive inter-religious dialogue, and its role in building sustainable community activism.

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm Wingate 210 Fall 2013

ALGERIA AT WAR ON FILM
Associate Professor Judy Kem

A discussion and debate of eight films (in English or subtitled in English) that portray the still-controversial Algerian War of Independence and the more recent Algerian Civil War and how Islamic ideals, the 132-year French colonial domination of Algeria, censorship, torture, and terrorism played major roles in both conflicts. We will also discuss short reading selections on both conflicts. Students of French [intermediate-level or higher] may also enroll in a 1.5-hour Languages Across the Curriculum component, FRH 196. Contact Professor Judy Kem for more information.

This seminar was formerly known as: Real to Reel: Cinematic Representations of the Algerian War of Independence (1954-1962) and the Algerian Civil War (1991-2000)

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm Greene 513 Fall 2013
CRN: 89751
PARIS: FROM DEPARTMENT STORES TO MYSTERY STORIES
Associate Professor Kendall Tarte, Department of Romance Languages

This course will explore stories and images of Paris, from the rise of the city as a consumer paradise in the nineteenth century to the lives of its multiethnic youth today. We will draw on novels, short stories, and paintings to examine a variety of depictions of the places and people of that city. To orient our discussions, we will focus on the artistic qualities of these texts and on the social and political concerns their language and form convey. Our discovery of real and imaginary Paris will focus on such topics as transformations of the urban landscape, ethnicity and identity, Parisian mysteries and realities, and ways of looking at the city. (Students of French [intermediate-level or higher] may also enroll in a 1.5-hour Languages Across the Curriculum component, FRH 196. Contact Professor Tarte for more information.)

MWF 11:00 – 11:50 am  Greene 512  Fall 2013

CRN: 89458
WHY DO PEOPLE LAUGH
Professor Cynthia Gendrich, Department of Theatre & Dance

We will spend the semester engaging this question from multiple perspectives—literary, artistic, philosophical, psychological, and physiological. We’ll familiarize ourselves with the historical debates about laughter; and we’ll read (and write about) novels, plays, and essays, discussing, disagreeing, and—hopefully—laughing.

MWF 11:00 – 12:15 pm  SFAC 208  Fall 2013

CRN: 86880
FRAMED: LOOKING AT THE MOVING BODY ON SCREEN
Associate Professor Christina Soriano, Department of Theatre & Dance

FRAMED: Looking at the Moving Body on Screen will examine the various ways a moving (and often dancing) body is positioned in many different types of films and videos. Topics that will be raised both orally and in written work include: how does the moving body communicate differently on screen vs. in a live performance? How/why is the framed, moving body sometimes deconstructed in our view? What is voyeurism? How does the camera have a personality? Within the worlds of silent films featuring subjects like Charlie Chaplin, to the movie musical with stars like Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, to contemporary Hollywood films, to music videos, to dances made specifically for the camera, this course will decode, decipher and evaluate the power of the moving body on screen.

T 6:00 – 9:00 pm  SFAC 102  Fall 2013