

ASP Elective Course Descriptions

Fall Semester 2017

TIER A

E-Track

American History: Pacific Northwest & Japan (Christopher Foss)

The course will serve as an introduction to the economic, political, and cultural relationships between the Pacific Northwest (generally Oregon and Washington, but also including some discussion of Alaska, British Columbia, and Idaho) and Japan. Lectures and readings will cover the history of interactions between Japan and the Northwest from the period of initial contact up until the present.

Professor's e-mail: cpfoss@willamette.edu

Applied English professor: Russell Fauss rfauss@willamette.edu

American Society: Introduction to Theatre (Jay Gipson-King)

Live theatre is an important part of cultural expression all over the world. This course provides a general introduction to theatre in the Western tradition, including basic vocabulary, play analysis, elements of production, and theatre architecture. Students will learn about American society by reading and watching two prominent American plays focusing on the theme of family. We will also compare American theatre with the traditional Japanese forms of Kabuki and Noh. Students will read and discuss plays, watch videos in class, and make a field trip to a local performance.

Professor's e-mail: jgipsonk@willamette.edu

Applied English professor: Harlan Kellem hkellem@willamette.edu

American Studies – I: American Justice (MaryJane Danan)

The goal of this course is to study American culture and society through an analysis of traditional and contemporary American values, social institutions, and means of expression.

During the fall semester, the course will engage students in a cultural detective hunt as they decipher the American justice system in a wide variety of contexts. Students will study in detail, the American classic novel, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee (in both text and movie form), and will be asked to carefully examine the many themes in the text such as coming of age, racial prejudice, class prejudice, childhood and fear of the unknown. Students will solve the mystery story that runs through the novel. In addition, students will have the opportunity to understand the criminal justice system through a unit on American trial procedure as well as an observation of a jury trial in Salem.

Professor's e-mail: mdanan@willamette.edu

Applied English professor: MaryJane Danan

International Politics: Global Issues

(Rachael Carella)

This course is designed to introduce students to 21st Century global issues. We will focus on the following issues: ISIS and the Middle East; the European Migration Crisis; Human Trafficking/Modern Slavery. The students and professor will determine an additional global issue to study and analyze. We will focus on the issues or events themselves and also how the United States plays a role in those problems. Through this examination, we will better understand how specific American policies have shaped the 21st Century.

Professor's e-mail: rcarella@willamette.edu

Applied English professor: Ernesto Hernandez ehernandez2@willamette.edu

American Studies J: Heroes in History, Fiction & Contemporary Culture (Lora Yasen)

The goal of this course is to study American culture and society through an analysis of traditional and contemporary American values, social institutions, and means of expression.

This course will examine various types of heroes and the role historical, fictional and contemporary heroes play in shaping American culture. Through the study of films, readings and discovery projects, students will consider the definition and attributes of heroes and consider how the concept of “hero” has changed. Students will learn about the lives of real heroes from historical biographies and observe current trends in the entertainment industry about heroes. Students will study fictional heroes in fantasy books and superhero films and learn how the hero journey pattern is used in telling stories. They will discuss professional athletes and celebrities as role-models and/or heroes and the surrounding controversies.

Professor's e-mail: lyasen@willamette.edu

Applied English professor: Lora Yasen

American Studies N: Mass Media & Persuasion (Courtney Dillard)

The goal of this course is to study American culture and society through an analysis of traditional and contemporary American values, social institutions, and means of expression.

This class explores the persuasive nature of the American media. Students are exposed to a wide variety of mediated sources including television, magazines, films and news blogs throughout the semester. Early on in the course, students are familiarized with the key variables of persuasion such as audience and culture, as well as the tools used by today's persuaders. Some of these major tools include the use of motivational appeals, storytelling and visual devices. Over the course of the semester, students learn how to critically interpret, analyze and evaluate the many persuasive messages found in American media, as well as the institution itself.

Professor's e-mail: cdillard@willamette.edu

Applied English professor: Ann Glazer aglazer@willamette.edu

Applied English (Summer and Fall Semesters)

The main focus of Applied English is the development of English language skills. The course is closely coordinated with a specific ASP elective course. For example: Intercultural Management, American Society, Human Resource Management, American Politics. Students will use all skills in this course: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Discussions, presentations, listening activities, and reading/writing assignments will focus on the topics of the ASP elective course—but the purpose of the activities is to help the student develop greater oral and written fluency in English. It will also help students to better understand the subject matter being taught in the ASP elective course.