

ASP Elective and English VII Course Descriptions

TIER-B Fall Semester 2016

Elective Courses

American Studies – G: Short Stories: U.S. and International (Steve Linke)

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.

In this course students will read, discuss, and write about a variety of short stories (1~4 pages long) by American and some international writers. Students will study, discuss and write about the American and other cultures and English language in these stories. They will also study short story forms, writing styles, techniques and vocabulary. At the end of the course students will write their own 1~2 page short story to share with the class. This course is both a study of American and other cultures using the short story form and an introduction to the basics of English literature with emphasis on American short stories. It is a culture, reading, discussion, writing and vocabulary development class.

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

Applied English professor: Steve Linke

American Society and Culture Through Music (John Doan)

This course is designed for students to gain a better understanding of American culture through the survey of the music of America from its earliest sources to the twentieth century touching upon traditions sacred and secular, popular and classical. Special emphasis will be given to music as a reflection of culture. Students will be given opportunities to develop their English language skills by participating in discussions, writing papers, making presentations, and studying the lyric content of the music performed in class.

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

Applied English professor: Ann Glazer aglazer@willamette.edu

Human Resources Management (Lisa Freiley)

Human Resource Management (HRM) is the field of management that deals with the assessment, development, payment, and placement of an organization's employees - the organization's human resources. As the world enters the 21st century, business leaders and managers have come to realize that "people management" is as important as "capital management" and even "financial management". But human resources need more than to just be managed. Employees need to be motivated to perform. Also, employees need to be directed and led toward the accomplishment of the organization's goals. This course addresses each of these important human resource topics: the management, motivation, and leadership of today's work force.

Professor's e-mail: lfreiley@osba.org

Applied English professor: Helen Johnson hjohnson@willamette.edu

Volunteerism – A: Focus on Poverty (Tamara Smith)

In this course, we will think about what it means to be a volunteer and why Americans volunteer. As we look at volunteerism in the U.S, we will focus on volunteering to help the poor. Who are the poor, the hungry, and the homeless? What causes these problems? How do volunteers, government, and non-profits work together to help the poor? To better understand the connection between volunteering and poverty, we will volunteer at an after school program with children who are living in poverty. Additionally students will also read a novel, read short articles, discuss, watch videos, and talk to Americans to understand the issue of poverty in the U.S. more deeply.

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

Applied English professor: Tamara Smith

Rites of Passage in Japan and the United States (Russell Fauss)

(Joint course with WU – Admitted by permission only)

This course focuses on the events of birth, coming of age, marriage, and death as they are socially construed by way of symbols, rituals, and myths. Initially, attention is directed to theoretical foundations and the constructs of symbol, ritual and myth themselves. Readings are drawn from anthropology, communication studies, linguistics, and sociology. Thereafter, focus turns to each of the events--birth, coming of age, marriage, and death--and the ways that various cultures make them meaningful. The constructs examined earlier in the term are applied to selected case studies from Japan and the United States.

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

Applied English professor: Russell Fauss

American Studies – H: Intercultural Communication (Christopher Kato)

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.

We live in an increasingly globalized world. Technology enables us to do business just as easily with our neighbors as with a businessperson thousands of miles away from us. Knowing how to navigate cultural differences is an increasingly valuable skill. This course is designed to help you identify how to become a better communicator in cross-cultural situations. You will learn about barriers to successful communication that involve cultural differences. You will also learn more about your own communication style and how it can be developed to facilitate more successful intercultural encounters. The first part of this course is focused on building awareness and a basic understanding of cultural formation, perception, communication, and behavior on the interpersonal level.

The second part of the course will emphasize knowledge, building frameworks from established theories in the field for critical analysis and understanding of cross-cultural engagement. The third phase of the course will focus on building the skills needed to apply their knowledge to address issues of dehumanization, cross-cultural conflict, and social integration including issues involving ethnic, racial, gender, and class differences.

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

Applied English professor: Christopher Kato

English VII Courses

English VII – TOEIC Preparation (Melanie Jipping)

This is a preparatory course for the Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC), which will help students improve their overall TOEIC-taking skills and TOEIC score. We will focus on intermediate language skills and test strategies to improve performance on Listening Parts 1-4 and Reading Parts 5-7 for the TOEIC test. We will practice listening comprehension and build vocabulary to help interpret photos, understand questions, predict responses, and identify similar/associated vocabulary words. Reading Parts will focus on intermediate word forms, verb patterns, skimming, scanning and reading fast. We will take several practice tests during the semester.

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

English VII – Reading in the News (MaryJane Danan)

In this course, students will read about current topics in the news using NEWS FOR YOU (a weekly newspaper featuring current news from the U.S. and abroad which has been written in simplified English). Students will work on reading for main ideas as well as decoding important supporting details in order to improve their comprehension. In addition, students will study vocabulary in news articles in class and for homework. When possible, we will follow some stories of interest through various publications, and over time, as the story develops. Students will also participate in and lead short discussions of news topics in small and large groups. For example, students will prepare a summary of an article of their choice, as well as other related information, to present to a small group once a week, and then will lead a discussion. Students will be asked to reflect on their news reading and discussion experiences in weekly reading logs as well.

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

English VII – Business English: Tourism (Ann Glazer)

This course is designed for students who want to work in the travel and tourism industries: hotels, airports, transports (airlines, trains, etc.), travel agencies, tourist information offices, leisure activities, and tourist attractions. This course will prepare students for many situations in which they will have conversations with tourists, offer them advice, give them directions, and talk to them about local places and customs in English. This course will help students expand their vocabulary and situational English skills related to tourism as well as build their confidence and fluency in English.

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