

ASP Elective Course Descriptions

Summer Semester 2017

TIER A

American Studies – A: Shaping American Visual Culture (Ricardo De Mambro Santos)

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.

The course will introduce students to the development of the visual arts in the United States of America from the late 16th to the beginning of the 21st century, focusing on the continual dialogue between local artists and their different models, canons, and styles of reference. Thanks to the analysis of specific case studies – from Gilbert Stuart’s *Portrait of George Washington* to Andy Warhol’s depictions of Marilyn Monroe – the course will explore the multiple ways in which values, beliefs, and ideologies have been conveyed through the use of images, especially paintings, films, and advertising. The class will therefore examine the creation as well as the circulation of images that could be perceived as distinctively “American,” thus addressing important issues, such as the construction of one’s identity and the role played by collective memory in this process. In order to further stimulate class discussions and encourage a more personal experience of art-related forms, the course will make extensive use of artworks displayed at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art and other local institutions.

Professor’s e-mail: rdemambr@willamette.edu

Applied English professor: MaryJane Danan mdanan@willamette.edu

American Studies – B: Romance in American Media (Huike Wen)

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 is designed to introduce students to the representation of romantic love in American media including the myths and expectations of love cultivated and promoted by the media. Students will compare and discuss the representations, interpretations, expectations and experiences depicted in the selected media products with expectations and experiences from their own lives. They will consider the effects of romantic love as told by the media. Students will watch several popular romance films such as *Beauty and the Beast*, *Maid in Manhattan* (2002), *The Rebound* (2009), and others.

Professor’s e-mail: hwen@willamette.edu

Applied English professor: Melanie Jipping mjipping@willamette.edu

International Politics: (U.S. 20th Century) (Rachael Carella)

This course is designed to introduce students to the 20th Century politics and policies of the United States. We will focus on both the formation and implementation of U.S. foreign policy during this last century and examine how the foreign policy of the United States has impacted the rest of the world including the development of other nation-states. Through the examination of U.S. foreign policy, we will better understand how specific American policies have, for better or worse, shaped the rest of the world in the 20th Century.

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

Applied English professor: Melanie Sosinski msosinski@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.