

ASP Elective and English VII Course Descriptions

TIER-A Elective Courses

Fall Semester 2018

American History: Pacific Northwest & Japan (Christopher Foss)

This course will explore the long relationship between residents of the Pacific Northwest (particularly Oregon and Washington) and Japanese tourists, immigrants, businesspeople, and students. Lectures, readings, discussions, presentations, and field trips will examine the history of Pacific NW-Japan connections from the period of initial contact in the early 1800s up until the present. Where it is appropriate to do so, students will also learn about important developments in American history that connect with Pacific NW-Japan relations.

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

Applied English professor: Russell Fauss rfauss@willamette.edu

American Studies – L: 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

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: msosinski@willamette.edu

American Studies M: 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 K: Persuasion in the Media Age (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 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.

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

Applied English professor: Ann Glazer aglazer@willamette.edu

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

Topics in Cross-Cultural Studies: Japan, the United States, and the Pacific Rim

(Joint course with WU – Admitted by permission only)

(Akio Iwasaki)

Designed as an introduction in cross-cultural studies of the Pacific Rim with particular focus on the United States and Japan, this course will explore topics like the environment and sustainability, social movements, economic and political development, or race and class in a comparative context. Students will critically explore and debate individual and community values manifested in these topics, and analyze the social, cultural, and historical forces behind those values. Half of the enrolled students in the course will be American Studies Program (ASP) students.

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

Applied English professor: ggunders@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, American History, and 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.

TIER A

English VII Course

TOEIC Preparation & Vocabulary

(TBA)

In the TOEIC vocabulary course, we will focus on language skills and test strategies to improve performance on the TOEIC. We will focus on identifying the types of vocabulary used throughout the TOEIC by looking at real world samples of business brochures, office memos, advertisements, forms, and articles. We will learn vocabulary that is important for various types of business communication such as emails, schedules, reservations, or advertisements for different types of businesses such as airlines, apartment rentals, hotels, restaurants, shops, and travel agencies. We will also take some partial practice tests during the semester.

Professor's e-mail: TBA