

# ASP Elective and English VII Course Descriptions

## Fall Semester 2017

### **TIER-B** **Elective Courses**

Revised 6/12/17

#### **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](mailto:jdoan@willamette.edu)

**Applied English professor:** Ann Glazer [aglazer@willamette.edu](mailto: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 21<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:lfreiley@osba.org)

**Applied English professor:** Helen Johnson [hjohnson@willamette.edu](mailto: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](mailto:tsmith@willamette.edu)

**Applied English professor:** Tamara Smith

---

**American Studies – K: Heroes in History, Fiction & Contemporary Culture** (Helen Johnson)

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:** [hjohnson@willamette.edu](mailto:hjohnson@willamette.edu)

**Applied English professor:** Helen Johnson

---

**American Studies – L: 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](mailto:ckato@willamette.edu)

**Applied English professor:** Christopher Kato

---

### **American Studies – M: Acting for the Stage** (Jay Gipson-King)

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 introduces stage acting as seen in American realistic theatre. We will focus on the actor's instrument of body, voice, and mind using theatre games and exercises. Students will select short scenes to memorize and perform in front of the class. The course is a fun and effective way to improve speaking and listening skills and to boost confidence, creativity, and stage presence. You will also learn and practice non-verbal communication unique to American society. No previous acting experience is necessary.

Professor's e-mail: [jgipsonk@willamette.edu](mailto:jgipsonk@willamette.edu)

Applied English professor: **Tamara Smith** [tsmith@willamette.edu](mailto:tsmith@willamette.edu)

---

### **American Studies – O: Masters of American Suspense** (Ernesto Hernandez)

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 class, students will read and study short stories of suspense by famous American writers. They will learn about the background and history of the authors, and explore, discuss, and interpret the major themes in the stories and how these themes relate to topics in American culture and society while working on improving reading and vocabulary skills in English. We will read stories by Edgar Allen Poe, Jack London, Kate Chopin, Philip Dick and O. Henry.

Professor's e-mail: [ehernandez2@willamette.edu](mailto:ehernandez2@willamette.edu)

Applied English Professor: Ernesto Hernandez

---

### **American Studies – P: American Values and Ideals** (Harlan Kellem)

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 focuses on the values that underpin both the founding of the United States and certain aspects of American culture today. We briefly discuss the structure of government and the meaning of the Constitution. We then look at diversity and how people of different nations have always been a part of the makeup of America. Core values such as individual rights and responsibilities will also be a main theme in the course. Throughout the course, students will learn and apply step-by-step critical thinking to course topics. Class sessions will consist of short lectures, videos, and discussions.

Professor's e-mail: [hkellem@willamette.edu](mailto:hkellem@willamette.edu)

Applied English professor: Harlan Kellem

---

**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](mailto:rfauss@willamette.edu)  
**Applied English professor:** Russell Fauss

---

**TIER-B**  
**English VII Courses**

**English VII – TOEIC Preparation: Vocabulary** (Melanie Sosinski)

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:** [msosinski@willamette.edu](mailto:msosinski@willamette.edu)

---

**English VII – Business English: Tourism** (Melanie Jipping)

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:** [mjipping@willamette.edu](mailto:mjipping@willamette.edu)

---