

ASP Elective and English VII Course Descriptions

Fall Semester 2018

TIER-C **Elective Courses**

Volunteerism – B: Early Childhood Development & Teen Pregnancy (Melanie Jipping)

In this course, we will learn about volunteerism in America by focusing on the development of children from newborn to 4-years-old, and the issue of teen pregnancy in the United States. Whenever possible, we will compare the issue in America to the issue in Japan.

We will begin with an overview of volunteerism in America, covering topics such as a definition of volunteering, the values and motivations that underlie the American "volunteer spirit," what makes a good volunteer and a good volunteer project, and conversely, what can make service bad.

For the main part of the course, we will focus on early childhood development and teen pregnancy by reading about how children develop from birth to age 4, and reading the novel, Make Lemonade, which is about a teen mother and her two young children. We will make connections between our readings and our volunteering. We will volunteer at the daycare for children of teen moms in the Teen Parent Program at the Early College High School. Before volunteering, we will interview the head of the daycare program, tour the facilities, and receive volunteer orientation.

Towards the end of the course, we will do research in groups by reading and discussing articles to try to find answers to some of the social questions surrounding teen pregnancy.

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

Applied English professor: Melanie Jipping

American Studies – Q: 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

Applied English professor: Tamara Smith tsmith@willamette.edu

American Studies R –U.S. Immigration

(Melanie Sosinski)

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 we will examine immigration trends throughout American History. Who is immigrating to the U.S. today? Where do they come from? Why do they come? How do they come? How has that changed over time? We will discuss how immigration in the near and distant past affects regional cultures in the U.S. today to gain a better understanding of cultural diversity in the U.S. Students will read and hear first-hand immigration stories and learn why people chose to come to the U.S., what challenges they faced, and how they overcame those challenges. In addition, we will learn about U.S. immigration laws and regulations in the past and today.

Professor's e-mail: msosinski@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, 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.

English VII Courses

English VI – TOEIC Preparation

(Helen Johnson)

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: hjohnson@willamette.edu