

# ASP Elective and English VII Course Descriptions

## Fall Semester 2017

### **TIER-C** **Elective Courses**

Revised 6/12/17

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

**Applied English professor:** Melanie Jipping

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#### **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)

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## **American Studies – Q: 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 trends in immigration to the U.S. 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 American culture today and gain a better understanding of cultural diversity in the U.S. Students will read and hear immigration stories to learn why people chose to come to the U.S., what challenges they faced, and how they overcame those challenges. In addition, students will participate in discussions, watch videos, and interact with immigrants in the community to learn about American society.

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## **TIER-C** **English VII Courses**

### **English VII – TOEIC Preparation: Vocabulary** (MaryJane Danan)

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.

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