**FALL 2024 SELECTED TOPICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**BUS 389: Senior Capstone**

Roy Mathews

This course (BUS 389) is the Gerstacker Senior Capstone Course. Seniors work with the director to develop coursework that exemplifies the culmination of the students' academic achievements through either a research or community engagement opportunity.

**ENGL 187: Writing Unplugged**

Jess Roberts & Nels Christensen

This is not your typical writing class with assigned essays, writing instruction, and workshops.

Instead, this class provides a space for students to come together and write informally in an

environment free from the usual distraction and hubbub of our electronic lives.

All writing will take place old school: in self-reflective journals, written by hand, with pen or

pencil.

Instructors will provide support and direction.

No electronics of any kind allowed!

**ENGL 189: Textual Gratification**

Lauren Brown

Gratification means to be satisfied; it’s an emotional reaction that is pleasant, and we often experience it when we’ve achieved a goal or fulfilled a desire. In this course, we’ll try to make reading pleasurable: we will aim to experience excitement, joy, satisfaction, and pleasure by engaging with language and text. As we do so, we’ll work to define for ourselves what it means to find reading “gratifying” by exploring why we read for pleasure and identifying what we desire when we read. And we’ll consider how reading stimulates us intellectually, emotionally, and even physically as we each pursue our own form of textual gratification.

**ENGL 187: Writing Your Resume**

Krista Quesenberry

ENGL 187, Writing Your Resume, is a chance to write — or revise — a document about which you might feel dread, confusion, fear, anxiety, or perhaps all of the above: your résumé. This quarter-unit class is a crash course in reading job descriptions, preparing content for job applications, then developing precisely tailored application materials, with extra emphasis on confidently describing your achievements and ensuring that your unique value is clear to your potential employers.

**ENGL 289:** **Black Resistance and/in the 19th Century**

Jess Roberts

This class will examine how Black and white writers have represented Black resistance in America’s 19th century and how literature itself has been an indispensable tool in Black resistance and freedom dreaming. You should be prepared to read a bunch of texts, fiction and nonfiction, written in the 19th century and a handful written in the 20th and 21st centuries about the 19th century.

**ETHN/MLAC 289: Latina/os in the Media**

Lucia Soriano

This term the course will screen media that is predominantly mobilized by Latinx, Black, and Native creatives. In an age where more and more Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) creatives are being celebrated for their talent, and thus, are being given the space to shine in mainstream productions, this course aims to (re)introduce students to media where the stories being told are being told by BIPOC mobilizers. Mobilizers, in this sense, refers to individuals who are involved in the writing, directing, producing, and acting of a film or tv series.

The class is organized into three parts:

Part 1: Latinx Mobilizers

Part 2: Black Mobilizers

Part 2: Native Mobilizers.

Students will build skills to critically analyze media by being curious about who made the film or tv series in question, what is its purpose, who makes money from it, what are the messages and meanings of the media, and what can be learned from theirs and others’ interpretation and responses to the media.

**KIN 389: Functional Anatomy**

Ahalee Farrow

In this course, students will gain experience with anatomical movement analysis as it relates to human movement and performance. Analyses of human movement will primarily utilize musculoskeletal anatomy terminology, however basic neuromuscular principles and biomechanical concepts will also be utilized.

**PSYC 289: Cross-Cultural Psychology**

Holger Elischberger

Culture is an essential part of what makes us human. In this course we will explore similarities and differences in how people from all over the world think and act. In doing so, we will cut across a range of psychological domains, such as abnormal, cognitive, developmental, and social psychology.

In this course we will explore similarities and differences in how people from all over the world think and act. In doing so, we will cut across a broad range of psychological domains, such as developmental, cognitive, social, and clinical psychology. By the end of the course, you will be able to identify the elements that make up culture, describe how cultures differ from one another, and give specific examples of how culture shapes psychological functioning – and vice versa. In addition, this course will help you develop your cultural intelligence by increasing your knowledge of foreign cultures, becoming more mindful of your own cultural background, and helping you reflect on your assumptions about and reactions to people from other cultures. I hope that it will also increase your appreciation of and respect for human diversity, and stimulate your interest in exploring cultures across the globe.