

Pitzer

New and Revised Courses—Spring 2010

Anth 122. Research Apprenticeship. [W 2:45-5:30 pm, C. Strauss] Students will work with each other and with the instructor as active participants in an on-going anthropological research program analyzing discourse about U.S. public policy (e.g., on such issues as immigration and social welfare programs). Research may include comparison with discourse on the focal topics in other societies. Students will have responsibility for significant aspects of the projects, including background reading, some bibliographic search, collecting data, and analyzing it. Participants may share authorship of resulting publications. May be repeated for credit.

ASAM 90. Asian American and Multiracial Communities. [F 1:00-4:00 pm, A.Suh] This course will introduce students to topics and issues in Asian American communities, with a focus on community organizing in the Los Angeles area. We will explore the meanings of social service, social change, and social justice, as well as competing notions of community. Throughout the course, we will be attentive to issues of migration and immigration, citizenship, language, race, national belonging, ethnicity, gender, class, and religion. Central to the course will be a project working with a community-based organization. Occasional all-day site visits will take place on Fridays.

Biol 84L JT. Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. [MW 1:10-2:30 pm, E. Wiley/S. Casper (KGI)] This course introduces the molecular concepts and techniques underlying genetic engineering for commercial purposes, including pharmaceutical development/production, cloning, tissue generation, genetic testing, and biological enhancement. Through discussing primary experimental papers and case studies, students are introduced to the scientific method, promises, limitations, pitfalls, and concerns in various biotechnology-dependent fields.

Biol 163L JT. Plant Physiology and Biotechnology. [MWF 9-9:50 am, L. Grill] This course will provide a basic understanding of plant physiology and plant biotechnology. It will cover plant structure and functional relationships at many levels, including the whole plant, plant tissues, isolated cells and organelles. It will include water relations, respiration, photosynthesis, nitrogen fixation, plant hormones and plant molecular biology. Prereq: Biol 043L & Biol 044L; Chem 014L & Chem 015L.

Chem 174L JS. Solution Thermodynamics. [T 1:15-2:30 & Arr., A. Fucaloro] This course applies the laws of chemical thermodynamics to liquid solutions with particular emphasis on volumetric and refractometric studies. It includes both lecture and laboratory. For the latter, the students will work in groups on research projects devised by the instructor using an Anton Paar density meter and refractometer. Students will be required to present their findings in written form. Prereq: Chem 121. Laboratory fee: \$50.

Econ 163. Economics of Poverty and Discrimination. [MW 12:00 noon-1:10 pm, A. Casolari] This course examines the phenomenon of poverty and the role of discrimination as a potential contributing cause. The course has a strong policy focus including examination of recent policy debates on welfare reform and affirmative action. The course begins with a discussion of the definition and measurement of the poor in the US and in developing economies. This discussion is followed by an examination of differing views of the causes of poverty. Next, the role of racial, class, and sex discrimination in both education and the labor market is considered. The remainder of the class focuses on policy options including welfare programs, employment policies, and equal opportunity policies.

Engl 60. Poetic Forms and Innovations. [TTh 1:15-2:30 pm, B. Armendinger] In this course we will see that form is always an invention, and that constraint is often liberating to the poem. We will practice writing in a variety of forms, from sonnets to haiku, Oulipo to hip-hop. We will think about the relationship of form to subject matter, as we explore the work of diverse poets who reinvent traditional forms and lay the groundwork for new modes of poetic speech.

Engl 130a. Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry. [W 6-8:50 pm, B. Armendinger] This course is intended to support the efforts of poets with an established writing practice. Most of our time will be spent in workshop, helping each other's poems to grow in depth and direction. We will also give attention to our creative influences in poetry and other disciplines.

Engl 130b. Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction. [W 2:45-5:30 pm, N. Revoyr] This is an advanced course in the writing and reading of fiction. Through reading and writing assignment, students will experiment with various techniques of fiction, and develop the ability to recognize, describe, and use the. Students will practice all phases of the writing process—notetaking, sketching, drafting, revising. The class will be conducted in a workshop format.

Envs 101. Environmental Internships. [[W 12-2:30, S. Phillips] The environment internships course involves students with real-world environmental challenges. Students spend ten to fifteen hours per week in local organizations, contributing to efforts in environmental justice, conservation, green architecture and planning, agroecology, public policy, and education. Students learn respectful engagement and study a core set of issues associated with their sites.

Hist 118 Teaching U.S. History: Practicum. This course will examine both the politics and practice of United States history teaching. It will explore how the California State standards for U.S. history came to be and the sometimes problematic classroom relation between history and “social studies.” In the first half of the course, students will attend lectures and examine primary documents related to the period 1929-1945. In the second half of the course, students will prepare for and serve an intensive internship in a Pomona high school history classroom, including preparation and presentation of one lesson plan on the period we’ve studied. A prior college-level course in U.S. history (such as History 25 or 26 at Pitzer) is desirable, but not required. Spring, S. McConnell/M. Dymerski.

Hist 121. The Era of the Civil War and Reconstruction, 1845-1877. (formerly History 157) This seminar course looks at the causes and consequences of the American Civil War – social, cultural, economic and political. Although not neglecting military history, it places emphasis on the decisions leading up to the conflict and the devastation it left in its wake, with special attention to slave society and its destruction. Prerequisite: Some background in U.S. history is helpful, but not required. Spring, S. McConnell/R. Roberts.

MS 57. Screenwriting. [M 2:45-5:30 pm, S. Howard] This course will explore narrative structures and the visual aspect of a screenwriting. Narrative strategies for establishing tone and characterization will be provided through model films and writing exercises. Students will write a screenplay, from initial idea to completed script and have the opportunity for consistent critique of their screenwriting.

Ont 76. Community Organizing. [T 1:15-4:00 pm, T.Dolan] This course introduces students to community organizing in the U.S. In cities across the country, professional community organizers work to develop organizations that transform power structures in communities through direct action by grassroots leaders. Students will learn the history, skills, and practice of organizing for power in oppressed communities.

Post 189. Special Topics: Political Communication in a Global Context. [MW 2:45-4:00 pm, J. Busacca] This course will investigate the influences and impacts of political communication across the globe. It will examine political communication strategies, and the shifts in technology, media, and tactics giving voice to new political actors. The course will also endeavor to uncover how information and communications technology impact political change, social protest, and collective action.

Span 199. Senior Research Projects Seminar. [T 4:30 pm, E. Jorge/M. Machuca] Capstone course for Spanish majors. All Spanish major seniors are required to complete a research project and participate in the discussion. The main goal of the seminar is to help students achieve a more sophisticated use of the Spanish language as applied to a specific research project, and to motivate them to be self-reflective and independent learners as they work on the conceptual framework and practical aspects of the research process and, if appropriate, its application.