



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Summer 2017: Descriptions for Special Topic and Seminar Courses

ENG 201 Readings in Literature: Shakespeare

Shakespeare was a professional entertainer, and so one of the main goals of the course will be to enjoy his plays, and appreciate his profound wisdom and insight into human nature. No previous knowledge of Shakespeare is required—just a curiosity about human nature and a willingness to enjoy great literature. We will read a selection comedies and tragedies (7-8 plays in total). For each play, students will post and share their responses to questions on key themes. Students will also be encouraged to view various film productions of the plays.

HIS 480 Seminar: Hamilton and Democracy

In *Hamilton* and the Politics of Early America students will explore the world that Lin-Manuel Miranda brought to life in the hit Broadway musical. Students will wade through the myth and memory surrounding one of the most important and controversial figures in early American history. Throughout the terms students will engage with *Hamilton's* writings, along with general narratives of the period, in order to get a fuller sense of the man and his legacy.

HIS 480 Seminar: Native American History

Until the latter part of the twentieth century, nearly all histories of the United States began with the arrival of Columbus and the settlement of the North American continent by Europeans, despite the fact that native peoples had inhabited these lands for thousands of years. When they were mentioned at all, it was often in a negative and derogatory fashion. This course is designed to assist students to grow in their understanding of and appreciation for the diverse and rich history and culture of the native peoples of America. This will be accomplished by examining the cultures and social systems of the native peoples as well as analyzing their complex interactions with the various waves of immigrants who came to America beginning in the fifteenth century and the significant consequences of these interactions.

INT 270 Race, Sports and Society

Racial tensions in the country have reached heightened levels. From Ferguson to Black Lives Matter to the Oath Keepers to a presidential candidate's proposal to build a border wall to bar Mexican immigrants and to ban Muslims entering the U.S., the country is being forced to acknowledge and grapple with a complex and polarizing racial history and legacy. Sports have always had the unique ability to act as a mirror, reflecting and helping to examine society's most pressing, complex and controversial issues. This course will explore racial, gender and socio-economic issues through the lens of sports, highlighting their role as both leader and laggard on social issues as well as their ability to act as an influencer in the court of public opinion. *Fulfills Diversity Requirement.*

LDR 480 Leadership and Wellness

This course conceives of "wellbeing" as a set of skills that allow us to respond more productively to the stressors of modern life to flourish. This course introduces students to ideas, exercises, and practices from ancient wisdom, modern psychology and neuroscience that can lead to increased wellbeing which

in turn allows one to reach one's potential and effectively lead others. Students will engage in actual practices to increase wellbeing, reflect upon their experience, articulate what they are learning, and create a developmental wellbeing plan.

PSY 470 Psychology of Close Relationships

Have you ever wondered if opposites really attract? Whether cohabitation before marriage really increases your likelihood of divorce? What makes couples happy into old age? This special topics course on the psychology of close relationship will offer students a general introduction to research on interpersonal and intimate relationships. Using an inter-disciplinary approach, we will discuss the significant theories and research that have shaped this exciting area of psychology as well as the research that is being conducted now. These topics will include attraction, friendship, love, sexuality, conflict, communication, and more. The online course will involve participation in online discussions, chapter quizzes, module tests, and reaction papers.