



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Fall 2017: Descriptions for Special Topic and Seminar Courses

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 term 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 481 Seminar: America between the Wars

In this course, explore the paradoxes of the interwar era through historical accounts, biographies, and multimedia primary sources. The Great War and subsequent strife between workers and management haunted the U.S. in the 1920s and 1930s. The economy boomed and Americans enjoyed new conveniences and mass entertainment, but prosperity was uneven and dismantled by the Great Depression. Social and sexual mores loosened, creativity in the arts and music expanded, and multiple constituencies rallied to sustain and protect Victorian-era values. Conservative politics held sway in the 1920s but the 1929 Crash inspired radical movements and a social-liberalism that congealed in FDR's New Deal.

PHL 480 Philosophy of Good and Evil

For theologians, the question of Good and Evil is a Problem; for philosophers, it remains an intractable Puzzle. Despite breathtaking advances in life sciences, biotechnology, and new understanding of the origins and structures of life, we are faced by nearly the same impasse (Aporia) regarding Good and Evil as generations of thinkers before us. This course presents a wide survey of comparative approaches to both Good and Evil. A multidisciplinary approach to the topic will examine the philosophical roots of both the

“Problem of Evil” and the “Sovereignty of Good.” Thinkers represented include Arendt, Augustine, Aquinas, Ghazali, Hobbes, Hume, Kierkegaard, Murdoch, Neiman, Nietzsche, Rorty, and Weil. Fresh approaches to the question of Good and Evil will be examined through case studies, research, and concrete examples drawn from history from the classical period to the present day.