

TOPICS AND EXPERIMENTS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FALL 17

COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

CS 299 Introduction to Programming with Python

PREQ: IT 101

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of programming and algorithmic thinking using the Python programming language. Students learn the fundamental constructs and key concepts that are common to all modern programming language using this relatively straightforward, popular, and versatile language. Their understanding is reinforced throughout the course by the development of several standalone applications, in which the importance of writing efficient, clear, and well-structured code is also emphasized. This course is intended for any motivated student interested in learning how to program. No prior knowledge of Python or other programming languages is required.

ENGLISH

CIN 370 001 Horror/Sci-Fi in Film & TV

Isaac Asimov, master of hard science fiction, once said, “science fiction can be defined as that branch of literature which deals with the reaction of human beings to changes in science and technology.” Stephen King, master of horror fiction, stated, “we make up horrors to help us cope with the real ones.” The study of the horror and science-fiction genres in film and television offers unique insight into the consequences of the *what if?* scenario. These two genres, sometimes referred interchangeably and occasionally viewed as overlapping in shared codes, conventions, and iconography, provide a means to debate cautionary social and political controversies surrounding unforeseen futures, usually dystopias, or the creation or existence of unimaginable beings — both of which are positioned as a detriment to humanity. In particular, the two genres’ most central conveyance concerns the perception of the *other* and the protagonist’s struggle to remain or become *human* and/or moral. Although this course will provide an historical survey of some of the more influential and popular films and television programs of the two genres, the focus will be on contemporary work that reinvents prior axiomatic tropes by contextualizing them with specific social commentaries on the science and horrors of the present. We will explore issues of gender, race, sexuality, and class through such vehicles as: *disaster* — alien invasion, environmental catastrophes, humans supplanted by technology, the apocalypse, and pandemics; *identity* — cyborgs, clones, experimentation by biotech and government, precognition, and artificial intelligence; and, the *fantastical* — monsters, the paranormal, time travel, and the devil incarnate. Contemporary television programs to be viewed and discussed will likely include *Fringe*, *iZombie*, *Battlestar Galactica (2004)*, *Black Mirror*, *The Leftovers*, *The Walking Dead*, *Helix*, *Dexter*, *Lost*, *Game of Thrones*, *American Horror Story (Murder House/Asylum)*, *Being Human (U.K.)*, *Supernatural*, *Scream Queens*, and *Penny Dreadful*. Recent films may include *Moon*, *District 9*, *The Host (2006)*, *Edge of Tomorrow*, *It Follows*, *Under the Skin*, *Snowpiercer*, *The Babadook*, *The Guest*, and *Cabin in the Woods*. A few genre-bending horror and sci-fi comedies, such as *Shaun of the Dead*, *What We Do in the Shadows*, *Galaxy Quest*, and *Zombieland*, may complete the mix. Ultimately, coming to terms with what is meant by “being human” will be explored.

CIN 370 002 and 003 Youth Cultures & Global Cinema

This course is a focused study of a general theme: youth cultures and global cities. We approach films not solely in terms of the history of cinema nor only in terms of technical details, or film theory, although students will learn and employ basic vocabulary of film studies and categories of cinema studies. Rather, we study films primarily as documents of youth culture, as explorations of the ways in which youth occupy urban and non-urban spaces, how they experience the local and the global, and how their identities and lives are represented in media, old and “new.” The films will function as case studies enabling discussion of major issues: youth self-fashioning and identities, family, tradition and social change, violence. We explore dimensions of youth culture in cinema, including technology, media, fashion, design, space, limit-testing behavior, music, cars, pets, jewelry, tattoos, and drugs, gang membership, gender and space, class and poverty, coupling, sex, love and marriage, education or attitudes to conventional schooling, rebels and the establishment, employment and the future life prospects or chances for young people.

LIT 391 001 Post Modern Fiction & Film

Postmodern fiction—spanning from the late 1960s to the turn of the century—experiments with the form and conventional narrative of modern literature, spotlights morally questionable antiheroes, and explores controversial social theories. Students will analyze the purposeful pastiche and playful trends of postmodern literature and film, including historical re-imaginings, metanarratives, creative textual adaptation, autobiographical author integration, among other characteristics of this contentious literary movement. Authors and directors that we’ll study include but are not limited to Michael Cunningham, Bret Easton Ellis, Spike Jonze, Rick Moody, Christopher Nolan, Susan Orlean, and Thomas Pynchon. Most of the texts used in this section of LIT 391 will be novels and novellas (as well as short stories, nonfiction essays, and graphic novels) that have been adapted to film, so that we can discuss the visual storytelling and multimedia techniques of these narratives, alongside groundbreaking postmodernist theoretical texts.

MC 320 001 Advanced Producing: Art of Editing

This course examines the crucial role that editors play in shaping motion pictures, both individually and historically as an industry. Whether it is fiction filmmaking, documentary or music videos the editor is the guiding hand that maintains the director’s vision while problem solving and providing creative insight. As a student in this class you will learn about this critical collaborator through lectures, screenings and hands-on editing experiences that allow you to fully appreciate an editor’s impact.

MC 320 002 Advanced Producing: Directing

Everyone has an image of a film director. Many of us picture a man or woman in a beret with a bullhorn, sitting in a “director’s chair”, barking “action!” and “cut!” But – beyond being in charge - what does a director actually do in the real world of filmmaking? What are his or her responsibilities? In this course we will attempt to define the role of the director both through study and through hands on experience. The topics will include visualization & storyboarding, script breakdowns, casting & working with actors, location scouting, shot planning and film grammar, on-set procedures and the director’s role in post-production. The first half of the semester will give students a foundation in directing through readings, lectures, film analysis and exercises. In the second half, students will form small production teams. Each student will get a chance to direct their own short script while the other members in the group serve as crew. Whenever possible, the class will engage with the greater Boston film community, including the opportunity for Bentley students to direct professional actors and speak with members of the local media industry.

FINANCE

FI 399 001 Behavioral Finance

PREQ: (FI 320 or FI 306) or (FI 307 or FI 380).

This course provides an overview of Behavioral Finance, drawing on research from psychology, sociology, physiology, and neuroscience to gain a more nuanced understanding of how humans make decisions within a financial context. The course is designed to build on behavioral concepts as they are introduced during the first part of the course. Applications to corporate, investment, and financial market decision-making are included. Each section is designed to be interactive and provide information that can be used directly by participants, with lectures, class discussions, and cases used to enrich the presented material. In-class opportunities are provided for individuals to better understand their own personal behavioral tendencies around financial decision-making. Group activities will allow for opportunities to apply material being presented. Participants will be evaluated through exams, group assignments, class participation and individual papers.

GLOBAL STUDIES

GLS 299 Political Film

This course applies the power of film to deepen understanding and appreciation of politics and government in the United States. We will view several films with underlying political messages and interpret their larger meaning through the narrative, visual, and technical elements of film. We also will think critically about several important political controversies, such as how much power should government have? What is the proper balance between freedom (civil liberties) and order (public safety and national security)? What are the causes and consequences of corruption in government? What should government’s role be in promoting social equality and

economic fairness? Is capitalism consistent with democracy and freedom? Examples of films viewed in previous years include: *Clockwork Orange*, *Scarface*, *The Dark Knight*, *Minority Report*, *Thelma and Louise*, *The Godfather*, *Dirty Harry*, *Do the Right Thing*, *Boyz in the Hood*, *American Psycho*, and *Fight Club*. **[not open to students who already have taken GLS 242 and GLS 242H Politics Through Film]**

HISTORY

HI 392 001 England: Reformation-Revolution

Early Modern England (1485-1714) underwent a dramatic transformation, emerging from the political dysfunction and endemic warfare of the later middle ages into the first modern state. The transformation was neither smooth nor linear; the English witnessed regicide, religious reformation, puritans, witches, plagues, the rise of Shakespearean theater, a failed invasion (Spanish Armada), a civil war, a Commonwealth & Lord Protector, a Restoration, and a Glorious Revolution. In this survey of early modern England we shall explore how and why these events occurred and attempt to understand what each meant for England, its people, and why that's important to the Western world, writ large.

HI 395 001 History of Medicine

In this course, we examine themes of current interest in the history of medicine through historical lenses. Topics to be covered include: 1. The management of epidemics. In this section we consider historic outbreaks such as the Spanish 'Flu in 1918, SARS in 2003, and the current ebola epidemic, and look at the roles of the state, the medical profession, the media, and public opinion. 2. Disease and imperialism. This section will consider the roles of malaria and sleeping sickness in limiting imperialism in West Africa in the 19th century; the transmission of cholera by the British Army and by Muslim pilgrims, and of course the consequences of the spread of European smallpox and syphilis in the Age of Exploration. 3. The 'epidemiological transition' from acute infectious diseases to chronic lifestyle diseases. Here, the increasing prevalence of long-term, chronic disease since World War II will be explored along with its consequences for the financing of health care, and lastly, 4. Health management. Good health is both an economic resource and a contributor to personal well-being. In this section, we examine the historic drivers of health-seeking behavior by individuals, their employers, and the state.

HI 395 002 The History of the Future

This course examines the different ways societies have imagined the future, from the ancient past to the modern era. We will focus on a wide variety of historical, social, and cultural developments from around the world, including ancient oracles, apocalyptic fears, eugenics, Marxism, nuclear dreams, and dystopian fiction. The core of the course will center on understanding the human fascination with the world of tomorrow and its influences on the present. By doing so, we hope to gain a better understanding of the human condition.

HI 395 H02 Twentieth Century Fascisms

Adolf Hitler's takeover of Europe made the Nazi party synonymous with Fascism. But Fascism is a mass movement that continues today with active fascist parties including the American Nazi Party. This course will examine five global cases of 20th c. fascist movements in Europe, Japan, and Latin America. Why did some fascist movements fail while others succeeded? What is the history of Fascism versus populism after World War II? The course will help you become literate in today's debate on 21st c. fascist movements.

INFORMATION DESIGN AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATION

IDCC 390 001: Concept Development

PREQ: EXP I

The course structure will concentrate on the essential skills necessary to understand how visual communication design is important in all areas of business best practices, that includes marketing, advertising and promotion. The course will teach real-world application skills to be able to develop concepts and actual finished visual communication design projects. The student will also learn the importance and proper use of client brand identity. The skills learned in this course will allow the student to evaluate and critique professional visual communication materials to determine that the design is the best solution for the client's message. The skills learned in this course will allow the student to create smart design solutions using typography, color, image style, brand identity, visual alignment, balance and information hierarchy. The design tools used in this course are accepted as industry standards and are used in all professional fields of visual communication design.

IDCC 390 002: Research Methods

PREQ: EXP I

This course covers fundamental principles of design and research methods for user experience with an emphasis on discovery, experience, and learning through projects. The goals of this course are to provide students with an understanding of the range of design research methods available, and how to apply them to solving real-world design problems. Topics covered include history of research methods and design, ethics, business context, design thinking, interviewing, surveys and focus groups, field studies, contextual inquiry, experimental design, basic statistics and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data, usability testing, personas, use cases and scenarios, as well as ideation and sketching techniques. Readings for class will be drawn from assigned texts, scholarly publications on design, case studies, and popular articles.

Students considering a graduate UX program are strongly recommended to take this course.

LAW

LA 402-001 Rights of the Criminal Defendant in Police Investigations and The Impact of Technology

PREQ: LA 108 See instructor to register

As technology grows in its impact on everyday life, prosecutors and police officials have adapted it to assist in criminal investigations. Some uses, however, have the potential to violate the accused constitutional protection against self-incrimination. One of those uses involves monitoring and interpreting an accused's brain wave activity in the attempt to prove his or her guilt. This seminar will explore 5th Amendment case law on the issue of self-incrimination and what it means for the use of such technologies. As a companion topic, the seminar will also review issues related to solitary confinement and the 8th Amendment. At the conclusion of the course, students will participate in a regional moot tournament sponsored by the American Collegiate Moot Court Association.

Mathematical Sciences

MA 402B 001 Intermediate Applied Statistics

Statisticians have assumed larger and more important roles in the modern world as decision problems become more complex. Statisticians are now asked to (1) make recommendations about investment strategies; (2) help analyze multiple portfolios; (3) help detect accounting fraud; (4) make forecasts of sales, personnel needs, input requirements, and so on. Their feedback is now used at all levels of today's corporations, especially as data sets become larger and larger. In MA214, you will be asked to conduct hypothesis tests on multiple populations, learn to analyze variance, see applications of multiple regression, and analyze contingency tables. Primarily, the statistical functions in EXCEL® will be utilized, although a higher-level statistical package such as SAS or SPSS will also be used. Applications will be drawn from primary business disciplines such as accounting, economics, finance, information systems, management, and marketing.

MODERN LANGUAGE

MLCH 404 001 Chinese/English Interpretation

This course is designed for heritage and native Chinese speakers whose English skills are at minimum near-native. This course will help develop students' listening comprehension skills, reading skills, note taking skills and verbal interpretation skills in both languages. Students will practice and accumulate vocabulary for verbal interpretation in a variety of situations, such as: in a social event, a business meeting, a reception, a legal court room, or a company tour.

MLFR 402 001 Young & Restless in France: French Film, Media & Society from WWII to the Present

“Young and Restless in France” is an advanced-level French course that introduces students to key moments in French film history and history, from the end of World War II to the present. Students will learn about the fascinating connections between contemporary French film and history, through the prism of youth. We will begin by studying the emergence of youth as a social category in France following World War II. Throughout the semester, we will analyze works made by, for, and about youth.

In addition to fiction and documentary films made between the late 1950s and the present, we will study other media—short literary passages, newspaper articles and surveys, blogs, and social media *reportages*—that shed light on the evolving role of youth in French society. Among the key themes we’ll study are the French education system, immigration and assimilation, intergenerational conflict, and (un)employment.

The course is taught in French and requires a proficiency level equivalent to a minimum of four years of high school French or four semesters in college. Students need a solid foundation in French grammar, an intermediate level of vocabulary, and a commitment to developing greater fluency. We will devote time each week to reviewing writing techniques.

MLSP 301 001 Gender Benders in Latin American Lit

This course explores the representation of gender in Latin American literature. Specifically, we will be studying male and female authors whose literary works challenge traditional Latin American conceptions of “male” and “female.” In the process, we will come to understand normative constructions of Latin American masculinity and femininity as politically charged and historically specific devices. We will question why and under what circumstances do fictionalized characters and real life authors choose to bend gender norms and to what ends. Our studies will begin with the Spanish conquest of the Americas and progress through the colonial and post-colonial periods to the modern period and finally the post-modern age.

MANAGEMENT

MG 340 001 Personal Ethics at Work

PREQ: GB 215

This course is designed to help you (1) recognize ethical ‘principles’ and logics which guide and influence your behaviors and actions in groups and organizations; (2) provide opportunities to inform and/or change the moral bases which influence your actions; (3) recognize ethical issues in organizations before they become serious problems or even crises, and (4) understand and act from principled reasoning in groups and organizational situations in order to be more helpful to others and prevent harmful consequences. The course is also intended to increase your understanding of how business ethics complements legal compliance at personal, group,

organizational, societal and international levels. Methods include readings, cases, videos, guest visits, and class interactions.

MG 340A E01 Growing & Selling Your Business

PREQ or Co-REG: MG 336

Growing and Selling Your Business is designed to help you take your company to the next level. Corporate growth is not a mystery, or an art, and it certainly is not based on hope or luck. Growing your business is based on a deep understanding of your customers and markets, and creating a plan to execute your way to the next level of growth. This class will focus on the most common methods to drive growth, will explore when more radical shifts are necessary, will prepare you for how to manage growth, and will take a first look into how to prepare for an M&A transaction.

NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE

NASE 398 001 Bugs in the System: The Role of Insects in Human Affairs

Insects may be small, but they exert enormous impacts, both positive and negative on all aspects of human livelihood. They consume and destroy crops and stored food, degrade real estate and claim more lives per year than all wars and natural disasters combined. This course will examine in detail the economic importance of insects in all aspects of human endeavor. Starting with an introduction to the unique biology of these organisms, we examine their role in natural cycles as well as their various impacts on human affairs including health, agriculture and construction. Taking advantage of double block sessions, this course will include several local field trips sites within walking distance of the Bentley campus and will integrate lectures with interactive laboratory sessions.

SOCIOLOGY

SO 298 001 Applied Sociology

This course will introduce the student to the fields of Applied, Clinical and Public Sociology. Sociology in its origins was applied in nature, meaning that the goal was to understand societies and social change in order to impact and shape it. In this way, the applied sociologist is a *social analyst*, piecing together elements of current events, theory, research methods, and sociological concepts to understand the world in which we live, as well as future directions in which it will move. Taken a step further, the applied and/or clinical sociologist not only tries to communicate a sociological understanding, but actively works toward doing something with it that will impact society at some level. Through this course, the students will examine the theories, methods, and contexts of applied and clinical sociology, as well as engage applied sociology through class projects. In this way, the primary goal of the course is to introduce students to becoming a *practicing sociologist* and to understand how sociology can be applied in various spheres of society.

SO 299 001 Sociology of Markets

This is an economic Sociology course that concerns markets – How do people and firms make decisions about market transactions? How do we assign value to items? What is the role of money? How are markets constructed, and what is the relationship between the economy and civil life/society? Moreover, why is it that dominant conceptions of market behavior are asocial, acultural, and apolitical – in keeping with a purely economic perspective? Students will learn sociological approaches to economic behavior, which provide a rich understanding of how people and firms engage in market transactions. Students will also learn how sociological approaches contrast with economic approaches and why economic approaches have dominated the way we think about market behavior.