

## Special Topics Courses 2025-2026

### Spring/Summer 2025

#### **ARTH-3991 (3 CR)**

##### **FILM NOIR**

Prereq: ARTH 2101 (or FINH 2101); ARTH/MUSE 2111 (or FINH 2111); or permission of the Department

This course examines the cinematic genre of film noir. It will consider films ranging from the genre's classic cycle of the 1940s and 50s to the "neo-noir" revival of the 1970s and beyond. Topics will include noir's literary roots in hard-boiled detective fiction, its cinematic and aesthetic antecedents in German Expressionism, its social and political preoccupations, and its pervasive and enduring legacy in art and media. Questions about genre, visual style, narrative form, sexuality, gender, and race will inform readings and discussions. Close textual analysis of individual films will be supplemented with critical, theoretical, and historical readings. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed with SCRN 3991 Film Noir and may therefore count as three credits in either discipline.]

#### **COMM-3991 (3 CR)**

##### **MANAGEMENT SKILLS**

Prereq: Third-year Standing; or permission of the Department

This course focuses on building skills in managing yourself, managing others, and managing teams. The course utilizes reflection about your own personal style when approaching work, and helps students to understand how this impacts their ability to work in various careers as well as teams. Students will learn strategies to communicate effectively and build better teams. Experiential learning includes case studies, class discussions, and workshops. Upon completion of the course, students will have a better understanding of themselves and the people around them, and know how to use that to be a better employee, manager, entrepreneur, etc.

#### **SCRN-3991 (3 CR)**

##### **FILM NOIR**

Prereq: Prereq: Third-year standing in the Interdisciplinary Drama Program; SCRN 1001; or permission of the Program Director

This course examines the cinematic genre of film noir. It will consider films ranging from the genre's classic cycle of the 1940s and 50s to the "neo-noir" revival of the 1970s and beyond. Topics will include noir's literary roots in hard-boiled detective fiction, its cinematic and aesthetic antecedents in German Expressionism, its social and political preoccupations, and its pervasive and enduring legacy in art and media. Questions about genre, visual style, narrative form, sexuality, gender, and race will inform readings and discussions. Close textual analysis of individual films will be supplemented with critical, theoretical, and historical readings. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed with ARTH-3991 Film Noir and may therefore count as three credits in either discipline.]

**VMCS 3991 (3 CR)****MATERIAL CULTURE AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

Prereq: 3 credits from VMCS 1201, 1301; or permission of the Department

This course presents an overview of the structure of social media platforms and how social media is enmeshed with material culture through different arenas of human behavior, including consumption, friendship networks, identity practices, life course rituals, political behavior, and exchange. Examples and case studies are drawn from a variety of social media platforms and both Western and non-Western cultural contexts.

**Fall 2025****ARTH 3991****Digital Art**

Prereq: ARTH/MUSE 2101 (or FINH 2101); ARTH/MUSE 2111 (or FINH 2111); or permission of the Department

This course explores the art histories at the intersections of art and technology and digital art. Using a chronological and thematic approach, this course covers early digital and computational art; technology, the body and cyborgs; AI and machine learning in art and its impact; and cyberutopian visions on the visual world. This course asks important questions about who has a voice in digital art and technology spaces, who these artworks are for, whether art can be “optimized” and examines the place of digital art in the current art world.

**BIOC 3991****Synthetic Biology**

Prereq: 3 credits from BIOC 2001, BIOL 2201; or permission of the Department

This course explores the exciting and multi-disciplinary field of synthetic biology. Synthetic biology applies principles from engineering, biology, and computer science to design and construct new biological parts, devices, and systems, or re-design existing biological systems. New functions or applications are created that do not occur naturally, leading to advances in medicine, agriculture, energy, environmental protection, and manufacturing. Emphasis is placed on fundamental concepts including; standardized biological parts, the application of engineering principles to biology, DNA synthesis and assembly techniques, genetic construct design, principles of biological circuitry, engineered gene expression, gene editing and CRISPR/Cas9, engineering of metabolic pathways, the creation of artificial life, and synthetic genomes. The future direction of the field will be discussed, touching on the impact of AI and machine learning. Lastly, social and ethical implications of the field are addressed. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed as BIOL 3991 Synthetic Biology and may therefore count as 3 credits in either discipline.]

**BIOC 3991****Research and Communication in Chemistry and Biochemistry**

Prereq: Third-year standing; or permission of the Department

This course explores the basics of research, searching databases, and what to look for when reading articles. It examines the open access movement, research data management, and

research impact tracking (bibliometrics/altmetrics). Scientific research takes place at a number of different institutions and this course asks how it is conducted, distributed, vetted, and searched in the scientific literature. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed as CHEM 3991 Research and Communication and may therefore count as 3 credits in either discipline.]

### **BIOL 3991**

#### **Synthetic Biology**

Prereq: 3 credits from BIOC 2001, BIOL 2201; or permission of the Department

This course explores the exciting and multi-disciplinary field of synthetic biology. Synthetic biology applies principles from engineering, biology, and computer science to design and construct new biological parts, devices, and systems, or re-design existing biological systems. New functions or applications are created that do not occur naturally, leading to advances in medicine, agriculture, energy, environmental protection, and manufacturing. Emphasis is placed on fundamental concepts including; standardized biological parts, the application of engineering principles to biology, DNA synthesis and assembly techniques, genetic construct design, principles of biological circuitry, engineered gene expression, gene editing and CRISPR/Cas9, engineering of metabolic pathways, the creation of artificial life, and synthetic genomes. The future direction of the field will be discussed, touching on the impact of AI and machine learning. Lastly, social and ethical implications of the field are addressed. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed as BIOC 3991 Synthetic Biology and may therefore count as 3 credits in either discipline.]

### **BIOL 3991**

#### **Omics in Microbiology**

Prereq: BIOL 2201; BIOL 2811; or permission of the Department

This course explores how omics—genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, and metabolomics—transform our understanding of the microbial world. Designed for students interested in modern microbiology techniques and bioinformatics, it provides both theoretical knowledge and practical skills for using omics in research. Students will engage in a variety of hands-on exercises and interactive discussions to process and interpret real omics datasets, and to learn how omics approaches inform our understanding of microbial functions, interactions, and ecological roles.

### **CHEM 3991**

#### **Research and Communication in Chemistry and Biochemistry**

Prereq: Third-year standing; or permission of the Department

This course explores the basics of research, searching databases, and what to look for when reading articles. It examines the open access movement, research data management, and research impact tracking (bibliometrics/altmetrics). Scientific research takes place at a number of different institutions and this course asks how it is conducted, distributed, vetted, and searched in the scientific literature. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed as BIOC 3991 Research and Communication and may therefore count as 3 credits in either discipline.]

**CLAS 3991****Spoils of Ancient War**

Prereq: 6 credits from CLAS, LATI, GREK; or Permission of the Department

This course explores how empires around the ancient Mediterranean seized plunder and then used it to display military prowess, fund public building projects, and exert authority over conquered and dominated peoples. This course focuses on ancient Rome; however, contemporary parallels are used throughout in order to survey how empires in the region utilized the weapons, art, luxuries, and cultural artifacts they captured as spoils of war. After examining the pragmatic and ideological place of plunder in ancient empires, this course ends by exploring what place plunder holds in today's society.

**COMM 3991****Digital Marketing**

Prereq: COMM 2211; or permission of the Department

This course provides an understanding of the theoretical underpinnings for digital marketing strategy, and examines the various tools available on the Internet to communicate with consumers. The modern marketplace is full of fragmented media, many of which are digital. Digital marketing communications are different from traditional media in many ways, including the interactive element and the algorithms utilized in order to select the audience for different messages. Many organizations are struggling to keep up with the constant changes in digital marketing. The course covers website development, search engine optimization, social media, and digital newsletters and critically analyzes how organizations are using these tools in order to improve effectiveness. (Format: Lecture/ Experiential Learning Exercises/Simulation 3 Hours)

**DRAM 2991****Creative Expression**

Prereq: DRAM/ENGL 1701; or permission of the Department

This course explores the physical body as a powerful instrument of creative expression. Drawing from movement practices, performance art, personal well-being, and interdisciplinary arts, students will investigate how physicality communicates emotion, identity, narrative, and abstract ideas. Through studio-based exercises, performance projects, and critical reflection, participants will develop a personal movement vocabulary while examining cultural, historical, and contemporary approaches to embodied creativity. No prior dance or performance experience is required—just a willingness to move, explore, and express.

**DRAM 3991****Gender, Race, and Popular Culture**

Prereq: DRAM 1701; third-year standing in the Interdisciplinary Drama Program; or permission of the Program Director

This course explores portrayals of race and gender in various works of popular culture (such as theatre, film, music, television, etc.). Student will develop an understanding of popular culture as both a material and representational practice, and as a contested site for the enactment of hegemony and resistance. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed as SCRN 3991 Gender, Race, and Popular Culture and may therefore count as 3 credits in either discipline.]

**ECON 2991****Food Economics**

Prereq: Second-year standing; or permission of the Department

This course will start with a discussion of the role of grains in our socio-economics structures and will end with cake. In between we will visit grocery stores and food banks to understand how families put food on their plate, hear presentations from farmers and food producers about our agri-food industry, discuss the industrial-agricultural processes that leave many growers with out a subsistence living, and study the environmental and health impacts of our existing fast-food lifestyles. This course will be experientially or work-integrated learning based and students will expect to contribute actively towards a final project that engages our community.

**ECN 3991****Economics Inequality**

Prereq: ECON 1001; ECON 1011; or permission of the Department

This course examines income inequality from historical, contemporary, and forward-looking perspectives. Students will explore the causes, consequences, and measurements of inequality, drawing on economic, sociological, and political frameworks.

**ENGL 3951****You Are the Universe: Literature, Nature, and Self**

Prereq: 6 credits from ENGL at the 2000 level; or permission of the Department

We are all made of stardust—you, me, animals, plants, and every other living organism. How does this knowledge affect how we relate to and treat one another and the natural world? This course explores this question and others through a range of fiction, poetry, criticism, literary non-fiction, music, and film from the eighteenth century to the present.

**ENGL 4991****The Ethics of Reading**

Prereq: 9 credits in ENGL at the 3/4000 level; or permission of the Department

This course explores the myriad ways in which reading literature is complex set of ethical behaviours and what the implications that might be for us personally and the world around us. Working from the premise that reading and writing can have real impacts on us as individuals, and thereby on the world we live in, we will examine various ways, positive and negative, literate culture acts in the real world. The specific contexts we will discuss will include empathy and antipathy, political and social action, personal and collective mental health, and environmental ethics. “Reading” is a metaphor or shorthand for all forms of engagement in literate culture and its related forms and media, including the visual arts, music, film, and digital culture. Students are expected to be able to work in literary and cultural analysis at a high level, with strong skills in the social and professional work of the in-person classroom.

**FGST 3991****Reproductive Justice**

Prereq: Second-year standing; 3 credits from FGST, WGST; or permission

This course introduces the key tenets of reproductive justice with a focus on contemporary social movements for bodily autonomy. Rooted in Black feminist praxis, reproductive justice incorporates an intersectional approach to sexual health and well-being with a focus on political action. This course will outline the historical development of the concept of reproductive justice, highlight key social movements and organizations, and consider contemporary struggles for reproductive justice. Course topics include: sex education, surrogacy, sex education, transgender parenting, Indigenous midwifery, abortion, and more! (Exclusion: FGST 2991 Reproductive Justice Winter 2025)

## **FGST 4991**

### **Feminist Politics of Care**

Prereq: Second-year standing; 3 credits from FGST, WGST; or permission

This course provides the opportunity to engage with feminist deliberations on practices of care. In the course we are challenged to think critically about care and accountability. Course materials will draw from the overlapping fields of abolition feminism, feminist political economy, and queer, trans, and disability justice movements. Course topics include: care work and social reproduction, care ethics, mutual aid and coalition building, transformative justice, and abolition feminist approaches to community-based care. We will look at care in the workplace, in healthcare, and in homes, but mostly we will focus on the place of care in social movements with an emphasis on the challenges and possibilities of practicing and imagining radical forms of feminist care.

## **FINA 3991**

### **Studies in Site and Place**

Prereq: FINA 1921; FINA 1931; 12 credits from FINA at the 2000 level; and permission of the Department

This studio course considers the relationship of art, places, and perspectives. Investigating the topics of geography and place as an important facet of artistic practice, this course helps students understand both the potential and complexities of low-impact, site-specific work in both local and regional environments. The foundation of Studies in Site and Place is based on opportunities to explore ideas of cultural experience and retreat in relationship to the natural environment through investigations in various media in combination with light sensitive media. The practical framework of the course will focus on site-specific exercises, the research and planning of projects, and the creation of work during class field trip. (Format: Studio, Field Course)

## **FREN 3991**

### **The Suburbs in Literature**

Prereq: FREN 2601; or permission of the Department

This course explores the literary representation of contemporary French Suburbs. Usually considered as the part of the city where social conflicts, violence and delinquency emerge, the suburbs are also associated with the emergence of postcolonial minorities and locations of cultural diversity. A new generation of French and Francophone writers have developed a corpus of fiction named 'littérature de la banlieue', where questions related to the suburbs such

as childhood, education, religion and traditional family values are confronted with social integration in a land of immigration. The analysis of four novels from these writers will help students discover this new aspect of current literature and broaden their reflection of the function of literature in denouncing social injustice.

### **GENS 3991**

#### **Beaches: Hazards & Management**

Prereq: GENS 2101; GENS 2431; or permission of the Department

This course is an introduction to beaches. Beaches are an important driver of tourism, a valued recreational resource, and habitat for various animals. They can also present a variety of hazards to users. The course starts with an overview of the physical processes that create and shape beaches. Various hazards are then covered, from rip currents to tsunamis. The course concludes with consideration of beach management approaches and practices, including consideration of the accelerating impacts from climate change. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed as GENV 3991 Beaches: Hazards & Management and may therefore count as 3 credits in either discipline.] (Format: Lecture/Laboratory 3 Hours)

### **GENV 3991**

#### **Beaches: Hazards & Management**

Prereq: GENS 2101; GENS 2431; or permission of the Department

This course is an introduction to beaches. Beaches are an important driver of tourism, a valued recreational resource, and habitat for various animals. They can also present a variety of hazards to users. The course starts with an overview of the physical processes that create and shape beaches. Various hazards are then covered, from rip currents to tsunamis. The course concludes with consideration of beach management approaches and practices, including consideration of the accelerating impacts from climate change. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed as GENS 3991 Beaches: Hazards & Management and may therefore count as 3 credits in either discipline.] (Format: Lecture/Laboratory 3 Hours)

### **HIST 3991**

#### **The European Witch Craze**

Prereq: 6 credits from HIST at the 1/2000 level; or permission of the Department

This course examines the European witch craze between the fifteenth century and the eighteenth century. Spurred by the anxieties of life in a turbulent era, early modern Europeans blended fantasy and reality to produce the ultimate threat, the diabolical witch, upon whom the terrors and uncertainties of the world could be blamed. These complex fantasies dominated the European imagination for centuries, sparked by local fears, consolidated in demonological treatises, and visualized in contemporary art, resulting in the death of nearly fifty thousand women, men, and children across the breadth of the continent. This course explores the witch craze through a variety of lenses, dissecting the fears and fantasies of early modern Europeans across complex and varied beliefs and unique geographic and social contexts.

### **INDG 3991**

#### **Indigenous Community Engagement**

This course provides the opportunity to learn how to better engage and work with First Nation communities. Students will be tasked with creating a plan for community engaged learning with First Nation communities in New Brunswick. This plan must honor free, informed and prior consent, and include First Nation people's knowledge and advice.

### **MATH 3991**

#### **Optimization**

Prereq: MATH 2111; MATH 2221; 3 credits from COMP 1631, MATH 1311; or permission of the Department

This course covers techniques for unconstrained and constrained optimization, and includes both local descent-based and global optimization methods. The course focuses on the formulation of optimization problems, studying their characteristics, and applying appropriate methods to solve them. Specific topics may include linear, quadratic and nonlinear programming; steepest descent methods; Newton's method; quasi-Newton methods; the conjugate gradient method; projection, Lagrangian, barrier and penalty methods for constrained problems; the simplex algorithm; metaheuristic global optimization methods; Monte Carlo sampling; multi-objective optimization; optimality conditions; and convergence metrics.

### **MUSC 3991**

#### **19th Century Women Composers**

Prereq: MUSC 2101; or permission of the Department

This course explores European art music composed by women in the long 19th century (1789-1914). Through music analysis and the examination of secondary sources, this course will begin to develop stylistic and aesthetic profiles for composers including Clara Schumann and Fanny Hensel, who are only now beginning to receive recognition in the canon. Topics for analysis include harmony, tonality, voice leading, form, and genre.

### **MUSE 3991**

#### **Decolonizing the Museum**

Prereq: ARTH/MUSE 2101; ARTH/MUSE 2111; or permission of the Department

This lecture course studies the inherited systemic power dynamics that underpin the Museum institution and evaluates decolonizing strategies that have begun to address inequalities in representation, access, and operation. The Museum, having developed from the European Academic model, has structurally entrenched Western colonialist practices that have functioned to elevate and champion certain art, artists, and cultures, above others. While these operations of exclusion have been challenged and adapted in the postcolonial period, meaningful structural shifts have occurred only recently, after the Truth and Reconciliation Commission reached an agreement in 2015, and significant barriers remain. With a focus on the Canadian context, this course examines case studies from host of art institutions that have made progressive decolonizing moves across their institutional practices.

### **MUSE 4991**

#### **Displaying Disability**

Prereq: ARTH/MUSE 2101; ARTH/MUSE 2111; or permission of the Department

This course examines how disability is displayed and interpreted in art spaces. From critically analyzing

representations in artworks to how museums and heritage sites claim they are making spaces more accessible, this course asks if art and museum spaces are accessible and what accessibility means in these contexts. Combining art historical and museological approaches with critical disability studies, this course interrogates who has a voice in how disability is displayed, beyond just building a ramp or having an image of a legible disabled figure.

### **PHIL 3991**

#### **Kant on Freedom and Knowledge**

Prereq: 3 credits from PHIL; 3 credits from PHIL at the 2000 level; or permission of the Department

Kant is a highly systematic thinker, and this course looks at aspects of his epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, social philosophy, and anthropology. The goal is to see how they fit together, but also to observe tensions and difficulties along the way. The course follows a throughline of Kant's views on human freedom and how we try to make sense of a chaotic world. This course counts toward the History of Philosophy requirements for Philosophy and PPE majors. (Format: Lecture 3 Hours) (Exclusion: PHIL 3240)

### **PHIL 4111**

#### **Contemporary Ethical Theory**

Prereq: PHIL 2701; or permission of the Department

This seminar will investigate contemporary discussions of the main approaches to ethical theory. Topics discussed will include deontology, utilitarianism and virtue theory, as well as other approaches (depending on student interest) including: feminist ethical theory, world ethics, philosophy as a way of life, etc. Attempts will be made to bring in visiting speakers (digitally or in person) whose work will be discussed in the course. (Note 1: Prerequisite PHIL 2701 or Permission of the Department. Note 2: Students may register for PHIL 4111 more than once, provided the subject matter differs.)

### **POLS 4991**

#### **Arctic Politics**

Prereq: 3 credits from POLS at the 32/3300 level; or permission of the Department

This course provides an overview of Arctic Politics, using a comparative approach to explore a broad array of thematic and country-specific issues associated with the region. The region that we know as 'The Arctic' represents a vast geographic space, a wide array of environments, and is home to thousands of people. The Arctic has often been considered peripheral to global politics, and yet it remains a central component of international attention, springing back into public consciousness in the context of President Trump's overtures relating to Greenland. This course looks at what constitutes 'the Arctic', distinctions between the way in which the Arctic is governed and governance in other regions, the key issues driving policy-making around and in the region, how different states and groups understand and approach the Arctic, and the potential future(s) of Arctic policy and politics. (Exclusion: POLS 3991 Arctic Politics)

## **POLS 4991**

### **Charter of Rights and Freedoms**

Prereq: 3 credits from POLS at the 3100 level; or permission of the Department

This course explores rights in Canada, with a central focus on the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and its impact on governance, citizenship, and the judiciary. Students will critically examine how rights are defined, contested, and enforced through legal institutions, particularly the courts, and how these processes shape public policy and democratic participation. The course examines how the Charter of Rights and Freedoms shapes the relationship between Canadians and the governments of Canada, highlighting the legal and political constraints it places on government decision-making. Students will examine landmark cases and contemporary controversies to better understand questions of political power, justice and identity in Canadian society.

## **PSYC 3991**

### **Developing Changemakers: The Psychology of Agency in Action**

Prereq: Third-year standing; PSYC 1001; PSYC 1011; 6 credits from PSYC at the 2000 level; or permission of the Department

This lecture course focuses on agency: the sense that we control our own thoughts, emotions, and actions. The course examines psychological approaches to how we can make change in the world and in our own lives.

## **PSYC 3991**

### **Social Cognition**

Prereq: Third-year standing; PSYC 1001; PSYC 1011; 6 credits from PSYC at the 2000 level; or permission of the Department

This course examines how people make sense of their social world: how they perceive, represent, interpret, and remember information about themselves and about other individuals and groups. It explores topics such as: representation, recall, and use of social knowledge, controllability of thought processes, effects of feelings and desires, stereotype activation and use, and cultural influences.

## **SCRN 3991**

### **Introduction to Filmmaking**

Prereq: Third-year standing in the Interdisciplinary Drama Program; SCRN 1001; or permission of the Program Director

This course introduces the fundamentals of filmmaking, with a focus on visual storytelling, composition, and collaborative production. Using accessible technology and minimal equipment, the course focuses on the basics of story development, cinematography (e.g. composition, light and sound), directing, and postproduction (e.g. editing, colour grading, sound effects) through applied work. Emphasis is placed on vision, resourcefulness, and creative collaboration. No prior filmmaking experience required.

## **SCRN 3991**

### **Gender, Race, and Popular Culture**

Prereq: DRAM 1701; third-year standing in the Interdisciplinary Drama Program; or permission of the Program Director

This course explores portrayals of race and gender in various works of popular culture (such as theatre, film, music, television, etc.). Student will develop an understanding of popular culture as both a material and representational practice, and as a contested site for the enactment of hegemony and resistance. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed as DRAM 3991 Gender, Race, and Popular Culture and may therefore count as 3 credits in either discipline.]

### **VMCS 3991**

#### **Professional Development**

Prereq: 3 credits from VMCS 1201, 1301; or permission of the Department

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to build their professional profile and sharpen their visual and material literacy, intercultural communication skills, social media engagement, cultural heritage understanding, and project management essentials.

Through class presentations and hands-on, customised workshops, students will receive practical training that is key in today's global economy and digital age. The course has a weekly unscheduled complement that will expose students to career opportunities and postgraduate study/volunteer options.

### **VMCS 4991**

#### **Anime, Comics, Graphic Novels**

Prereq: 3 credits from VMCS 1201, 1301; or permission of the Department

By focusing on a selection of visually enticing and globally impactful mediums of expression (anime, comic books, and graphic novels), this course examines topical themes and issues in visual popular culture, including: the representation of gender and sexuality in digital media; the power of visual expression to animate and transform public spaces and social media; the transnational circulation of cultural representations and beliefs; inclusion and exclusion in social structures and interactions; the effects of globalisation, technology, and consumerism; and the process of cultural adaptation or resistance and the cognitive strategies undergirding these responses. Special attention will be paid to generic conventions, aesthetic features, narrative motifs, thematic emphases, socio-cultural relevance, as well as marketing strategies and fan engagement. Students will analyse anime, comic books, and graphic novels as visual forms with global circulation and as products of adaptation, while relating them to global culture and critical context.

### **Winter 2026**

### **ARTH 4991**

#### **Materiality and Mattering**

Prereq: ARTH/MUSE 2101; ARTH/MUSE 2011; 3 credits from ARTH or MUSE at the 3000 level; or permission of the Department.

This seminar course examines theoretical texts from across the social sciences and humanities that attend to broad notions of materiality and poses the question: how does materiality come to matter? Taking instruction from Contemporary Art practices that embrace the ephemeral,

contingent, multiple, and formless – and thus an appreciation of materiality that is active and continually evolving – coursework examines and challenges the static rigidity of Modernism’s hierarchical relationship with the material world. Extending beyond anthropocentric conventions that have posited mediums such as paint, marble, plaster, or ink, as passive recipients lying in wait of the human form-giving mind, here case studies in Contemporary Art reveal a material experience that resists clear subject or object definition, blurring boundaries between human and non-human agency.

### **BIOC 3991**

#### **Inorganic Chemistry: Metalloproteins**

Prereq: CHEM 2311; CHEM 3111; BIOC 2001; or permission from the department

This course will cover fundamental concepts of metalloprotein structure and function, with a particular focus on how metalloprotein function can be explained via an understanding of the structure and bonding of transition metal coordination compounds. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed with CHEM 3991 Metalloproteins and may therefore count as three credits in either discipline.]

### **Biol 4991**

#### **Adapting to the Anthropocene**

Prereq: BIOL 3811; or permission of the Department

This course examines the ecological and evolutionary resiliency of life when faced with the threat of an increasingly anthropogenic world. In particular, the course focuses our attention to the field of urban evolutionary biology and invasion science to examine how wild, free-living populations are able to overcome the challenges that are brought on by rapid ecological and environmental change. This course combines lectures with student-led discussions of recent and seminal literature, as well as assignments that motivate students to imagine what the biodiversity of a future world might look like. The course covers themes that span the breadth of behaviour, ecology, evolution, morphology, and physiology, as well as how these facets interrelate. (Format: Lecture 3 Hours)

### **CANA 2991**

#### **Black Canada? Nation, Diaspora**

Prereq: Second-year standing; or permission of the Instructor

This course offers an interdisciplinary introduction to the relationship between diasporic Black peoples and the Canadian nation. Students will be introduced to a variety of critical frameworks to explore how scholars, artists, and political actors have conceptualized Blackness within, against, and across the boundaries that mark Canada. Topics will include nationalism, race and racism, historical narrative, cultural expression, migration, settlement, and labor.

### **CENL 4991**

#### **Capstone in CENL**

Prereq: Third-year standing; Permission of department

This capstone course creates an opportunity for students to track, reflect on and explore the implications of their learning through the CENL program. The course includes an intensive

retreat with faculty, the development of learning portfolios and plans for future educational or career paths, as well as a sustained, collaborative project in connection with a community partner.

### **CHEM 3991**

#### **Inorganic Chemistry: Metalloproteins**

Prereq: CHEM 2311; CHEM 3111; BIOC 2001; or permission from the department

This course will cover fundamental concepts of metalloprotein structure and function, with a particular focus on how metalloprotein function can be explained via an understanding of the structure and bonding of transition metal coordination compounds. [Note 1: This course is cross-listed with BIOC 3991 Metalloproteins and may therefore count as three credits in either discipline.]

### **COMM 4991**

#### **International Management**

Prereq: COMM 4311; or permission of the Program Director

This course deals with the challenges of working in multinational environments and managing strategic issues that arise in rapidly growing multinational organizations of different sizes and sectors. The course aims to help students develop a multinational leadership mindset while considering the specific features of local environments. The topics covered in the course may include understanding institutional contexts across the world, multinational strategies, internationalization of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), organization design for multinational organizations, international business negotiations, and people management in multinationals. The central theme of the course is adapting to the ever-increasing multinational diversity of organizations through fostering managerial and cultural intelligence. (Format: Lecture/Seminar/Field project 3 Hours)

### **DRAM 3991**

#### **Queer Performance**

Prereq: DRAM 1701; third-year standing in the Interdisciplinary Drama Program; or permission of the Program Director

This course aims to dismantle heteronormative performance traditions and allow students to express themselves authentically and truthfully. Students will develop a strong understanding and foundation of “self” based on Queer theatre history, diverse identities, lived experiences, and other socio-cultural considerations with an emphasis on defining and expressing “Queer” identities and forms on the stage.

### **DRAM 3991**

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Prereq: DRAM 1701; third-year standing in the Interdisciplinary Drama Program; or permission of the Program Director

This course aims to dismantle heteronormative performance traditions and allow students to express themselves authentically and truthfully. Students will develop a strong understanding and foundation of “self” based on Queer theatre history, diverse identities, lived experiences,

and other socio-cultural considerations with an emphasis on defining and expressing “Queer” identities and forms on the stage.

### **ECN 4991**

#### **Historical Origins of Economic Growth**

**Prereq: ECON 1001; ECON 1011; or permission of the Department**

Economic growth examines the significant variation in levels of income, education, and health across countries. Key questions include: Why are some countries so rich while others are so poor? Why do some grow quickly while others grow slowly? This course explores the historical origins of economic growth, focusing on factors such as culture, institutions, geography, and the enduring impacts of colonialism. It also considers historical factors influencing the economic growth of Canadian Indigenous populations. (Exclusion: ECON 3501)

### **ENGL 3991**

#### **INTRO TO E-PUBLISHING**

**Prereq: Second-year standing**

A 21st century digital economy has become so all-pervasive that a grounding in the basics of online content generation as a sub-set of digital humanities knowledge is necessary for re-energizing the arts. While this introductory course focuses on the editorial and literary publishing aspects of online content generation, it also discusses general principles in the production of genre-specific online content (such as blogposts and marketing copy) and their appropriate formats, deploying Canadian style. In that regard attention will be given to the Canadian govt content-generation requirements for its Egovernment website – and its emphasis on plain language and the conversion of [sample] scientific content into plain non-jargonistic language. While this is not a web design course, a basic understanding of website architecture is necessary for online content formatting. Similarly, the course will incorporate basic html coding to facilitate Website backend content loading and editing on a WordPress content management system. This course covers: Literary publishing on the web; Web writing principles; Editing with Content Management Systems; Writing for Social Media Marketing (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram etc.); Writing for e-government (Canada.ca); Interfacing book publishing with digital tools (Publish on Demand - Espresso Book Machine); Digital Shopfloor management/ Digital vis-à-vis Book Publishing process; HTML/ Coding (for back-end WordPress editing).

### **ENGL 4931**

#### **Posthuman Futures: Bodies, Technology, and Identity**

**Prereq: Third-year standing; permission of the Department. Preference is given to students pursuing a course-based Honours**

This seminar will explore the boundaries between human and machine. We will read texts and watch films that examine how technology reshapes our understanding of ourselves and that challenge conventional definitions of personhood in a world of artificial intelligence, genetic engineering, and digital consciousness.

### **FGST 1991**

#### **Introduction to Feminist Action**

This course provides an introduction to feminist action and feminist thought for those planning to major or minor in Feminist and Gender Studies. It is designed for students with prior experience in (and enthusiasm for!) feminism. The course provides an overview of feminist social movements with a focus on anti-colonial, anti-racist, and trans inclusive feminisms. Course topics include interlocking oppressions and the emergence of the concept of intersectionality; dismantling the gender binary; lessons from Indigenous-Black solidarity movements; sex, sexuality, and consent. The course uses a range of texts and materials, with a focus on creative and artistic engagement. (Exclusion: FGST 1001)

### **FGST 3991**

#### **Asian Diasporic Feminist Pop Culture**

Prereq: Second-year standing; 3 credits from FGST; or permission of the Department

This course offers an interdisciplinary and transnational examination of Asian diasporic feminisms through the lens of popular culture and other forms of cultural production. Students will engage a diverse range of texts produced about and by Asian diasporic women that represent, negotiate, contest, and reimagine themes of race, gender, sexuality, class, and nation. Drawing on frameworks from Asian American studies, women of color feminisms, transpacific critique, and critical refugee studies, we will study how cultural production both reflects interwoven systems of power and animates Asian diasporic feminist thought and activism.

### **FINA 3991**

#### **Repeatable**

Pre-req: FINA 1921; FINA 1931; 12 credits of 2000 level studio courses; 6 credits of 3000 level studios; or permission of the Department

This course focuses on making unique images, objects, or installations using the techniques and practices of repeatable images and objects. Participants utilize printmaking techniques and three-dimensional multiples to complete singular art projects. The course emphasizes technical exploration and critical discussion in the development of new artworks. Experience in print media is recommended.

### **FINA 3991**

#### **Painting in the Expanded Field**

Prereq: FINA 1921; FINA 1931; 12 credits of 2000 level studio courses; 6 credits of 3000 level studios; or permission of the Department

This course examines the idea of “Painting in the Expanded Field”, an idea that relates to the production of painting in relationship to constructed or existing three-dimensional spaces and materiality. Students experiment with colour and process-based methods, non-traditional means of painting, found materials, alternative colour sources, installation, and textile/fibre-based practices.

### **FINA 3991**

#### **Performance: On-Site**

Prereq: FINA 1921; FINA 1931; 12 credits of 2000 level studio courses; 6 credits of 3000 level studios; or permission of the Department

This course explores performance art practices, through individual and group actions in a studio context. Engaging performance art in technical, critical, and theoretical ways, the course investigates the diverse possibilities of performance art and its direct relationship to (time-based) digital technologies. Exploring performance as a distinct discipline and tool, students expand the use of performance in an intricate way, primarily using their voices, their bodies, and immediate digital platforms.

## **FREN 3991**

### **La Transgression au féminin**

Prereqs: FREN 2601; or permission of the Department

Does transgression represent a path to freedom or a threat to the individual? This course explores the female figures who, in French literature of the first half of the 20th century, dare to defy the roles assigned to them. Through diverse and powerful works, such as those by Colette, Gide, Anouilh and Genet, we'll delve into the heart of novels and plays where women say no: to the norm, to morality, to obedience. Through richly contrasting literary movements – from late Symbolism to the audacities of modern theater – we'll see how transgression becomes both an aesthetic and a political gesture.

## **GENV 3991**

### **Geography of Finance**

Prereq: Third-year standing; GENV 1201; or permission of the Department

This seminar course will introduce students to the spatiality of money and finance through an exploration of the global economic geographies of financial flows through its many actors, intermediaries, and instruments. Topics include: bank bailouts, cryptocurrencies, international and national debt, disaster governance and development finance, financial inclusion and exclusion, fintech, microcredit, pension and hedge funds, public finance, student loans, regulation, and sub-prime lending and foreclosures. Students will gain an understanding of the theoretical debates about geographies of money, finance, and power, and be able to demonstrate knowledge of the financialization of everyday life.

## **GERM 3501**

### **German Fairy Tales**

Prereq: GERM 2011; or permission of the Department

This course explores the fascinating tradition of the German Fairy Tale. It will examine the Märchen in its various forms – as a popular oral narrative and as a crafted literary tale – highlighting the innovative potential of the genre and its emergence as a literary convention. By the end of this course students will have a focused understanding of the literary, historical and cultural significance of fairy tales for German reading culture and will be able to analyze the genre accordingly. Readings will include original texts as well as critical commentaries.

Throughout the course special attention will be given to the development and improvement of critical written expression. The main language of instruction for this course is German with essential class discussions taking place in both English and German.

## **HIST 3991**

### **History of Science and Technology**

Prereq: 6 credits from HIST at the 1/2000 level; or permission of the Department

This course is an introduction to the history of ignorance. It begins from the starting point that ignorance is more than simply a lack of knowledge. Just as knowledge is produced through social, political, and cultural process, ignorance, too, is a social product, and so may be interrogated using the tools of history. Topics covered will include climate change denial, the history of the modern tobacco industry, the norms of science journalism, and the structures of scientific research funding.

## **HIST 4991**

### **Death and Dying in Western Europe**

Prereq: Third-year standing; 3 credits from HIST at the 3000 level; or permission of the Department

This seminar explores themes in the history of death and dying in Western Europe and North America from the 14th to the 20th centuries. Readings will range from works in intellectual, cultural, and social history, historical geography and landscape history, material and visual culture, historical demography, and the history of medicine. Topics may include: funerary practices, dead bodies, and burial grounds; the state and death; the rise of the funeral industry; bereavement, mourning, and commemoration; notions of “afterlife”; popular culture and the public history of death.

## **MUSE 3991**

### **Art Conservation**

Prereq: ARTH/MUSE 2101; ARTH/MUSE 2011; or permission of the department.

This lecture course documents the history of Art Conservation over the Modern period: it tracks its emergence as a distinct field of study at the beginning of the twentieth century, its evolution as it responded to rapid technological developments over the course of the century, and its radical re-examination and shift in methodology when challenged by the novel art making materials and practices of Contemporary Art at the turn of the twenty-first-century.

Conservation case studies from across material cultures and artistic practices illustrate the intricacies of theoretical and technical problem solving that conservation treatments involve. Gaining and understanding of conservation principles and methods, students in the course acquire a deeper appreciation of the material properties of art objects and how the material-centered approach of art conservation is different from and complementary to the more subject-centered approach of Art History.

## **PHIL 3991**

### **Incommunicability**

Prereq: 3 credits from PHIL; 3 credits from PHIL at the 2000 level; or permission of the Department

This course examines philosophical contexts of incommunicability. The notion of a transcendental realm, a metaphysical nature, or a mode of knowledge that can be experienced but not communicated has a looming presence in the history of philosophy. We review puzzles

about incommunicability in logic (on inference), epistemology (on deep disagreement), metaphysics (on limit), ethics (on moral education). We will consider some models of thought and language that attempt to explain the source of ineffability, some social implications of the concept of incommunicability, and some accounts of philosophical practice centered on the task of expressing the inexpressible

### **PHIL 4521**

#### **Philosophy of AI**

Prereq: Permission of the Instructor

This philosophy of science seminar explores themes related to the implications and ethics of emerging technology, with an emphasis on artificial intelligence. The course begins with broader themes about the relations between society, technology, and organisms (humans included, but not limited to humans). Then it turns to recent themes in the philosophy of artificial intelligence, such as how we build ethics into artificial intelligence systems, how we define intelligence, how we manage biases and discrimination, whether machines will/should have legal or moral rights, how machines and organisms relate to one another, what the future of technological developments might mean for human well-being and the meaningfulness of human activities, like work or art. The course examines a diversity of sources that interrogate these themes, including science, science fiction, and philosophy.

### **POLS 3991**

#### **Canadian Political Economy**

POLS 1001; 6 credits from POLS at the 2000 level; or permission of the Department

This course examines Canadian economic development and state formation in the context of the world market and, in particular, Canada's place within North America. It discusses key concepts in political economy and traces the political-economic development of Canada from colonialism to the contemporary period. The course also reviews some of the key writers who have debated Canada's economic position in the world, focusing particularly on nationalist, continentalist and regional approaches. Course topics include current issues, such as indigenization, North American and global trade, industrial policy, and the current US/Trump challenge.

### **POLS 4991**

#### **Multiculturalism in Canada**

Prereq: 3 credits from POLS at the 3100 level; or permission of the Department

This course critically examines the development and challenges of minority rights and multiculturalism within the Canadian context. Focusing on its foundations and contemporary debates, students will explore the legal, political, and social dimensions of Canada's multicultural framework. The course will examine and discuss multiculturalism as sociological fact, philosophical critique & perspective, and public policy. Students will be asked to think critically about the politics of multiculturalism, including the ways ethnicity, race and religion define important political concepts like the nation and citizenship. Topics may include language rights, religious accommodation, reconciliation, as well as alternatives and challenges to multiculturalism.

**PSYC 3991****Exercise and Cognitive Function**

Prereq: Third-year standing; PSYC 1001; PSYC 1011; 6 credits from PSYC at the 2000 level; or permission of the Department

This course addresses the physiological and psychological changes that occur in the context of acute and chronic exercise in various populations. It will introduce selected principles, research findings, and theories relevant to how exercise affects cognition. Topics will include cardiovascular fitness, measurement issues, cognitive performance, sex differences, aging and cognitive decline.

**PSYC 3991****Justice Impacted Youth**

Prereq: Third-year standing; PSYC 1001; PSYC 1011; 6 credits from PSYC at the 2000 level; or permission of the Department

This course examines the psychological development, mental health challenges, and behavioral patterns of justice-involved youth in Canada. Grounded in biological, cognitive, behavioural, and social learning theories of crime students will explore the cognitive, emotional, and social factors that influence youth offending, as well as effective prevention, diversion, and intervention strategies for at-risk youth.

**PSYC 4991****Unusual Experiences at Life's End**

Prereq: Third-year standing; 6 credits from PSYC at the 2000 level; or permission of the Department

This course focuses on the extraordinary things that can happen when someone is approaching death (e.g., dying persons seeing and interacting with deceased loved ones that no one else present can see), at the time of death (e.g., clocks and watches stopping at the exact time of a person's death), or after death (e.g., a person sensing or feeling that a loved one who has died is present). In this course, we will compare various types of end-of-life experiences (e.g., neardeath experiences, deathbed visions, terminal lucidity, after-death communications), look at current research in this area, examine possible explanations (e.g., psychological and medical theories) for these experiences, and discuss the implications of these experiences for the dying, their families, and those who work with the dying and their families.

**RELG 1991****Death, Dying & the Afterlife**

This course introduces students to various practices and beliefs concerning death, dying and the afterlife across a range of religious traditions. Students will examine a variety of textual and ritual elements from both historical and contemporary sources and connect traditional conceptions of the afterlife with their ongoing implications for the living. (Format: Lecture 3 Hours) (Exclusion: RELG 1621)

**RELG 2991**

### **Religion and Politics in North America**

This course investigates the various ways religion and politics interact within the North American context. The course introduces a range of critical perspectives relevant to the study of religion and politics, covering important topics such as: religion and identity politics, religion and labour, distinct voting behaviors among religious groups, and the intersections between church, state & modern civil society. In addition, this course covers divergences in American and Canadian civil society/politics, by examining the rise of religious populism in the U.S. and the challenge of pluralism in both nations.

### **RELG 4991**

#### **Religion, Populism and Nationalism in the Modern World**

Prereq: Second-year standing; or permission of the Department

This course introduces the historical intersections between religion, populism, and nationalism in the 20th century. It explores the political philosophy behind nationalism, religious-nationalism, and populism. The course also examines global case studies of these movements and assesses how they have shaped the geopolitical landscape of the last century. From the First World War to the present-day rise of 'illiberal democracies' this class examines the 'why' and 'how' of political theologies and their real-world implications.

### **SPAN 3991**

#### **Testimonial Literature**

**Prereq: SPAN 3101; or permission of the Department**

Testimonial literature in Latin America is a genre that combines personal narratives with historical and social events, giving a voice to those who are typically marginalized or silenced. In this genre, authors recount lived experiences during periods of conflict, injustice, or social change, often involving dictatorships, revolutionary movements, or struggles for human rights. Delivered in Spanish.

### **VMCS 3991**

#### **The Picture Book Project**

Prereq: 3 credits from VMCS 1201, 1301; or permission of the Department

This course examines children's literature read in schools, libraries, homes, and other literacies learning contexts in our rural region. Studying these materials together with scholarship produced by experts in fields such as Disability Studies, Queer Studies, and Women and Gender studies, class members will leverage their learning about the ways picture book representations of diverse lives matter to collaboratively imagine, design, and implement an intergenerational literacies initiative with innovators in our Tantramar community.

### **VMCS 3991**

#### **Queer VMCS**

Prereq: 3 credits from VMCS 1201, 1301; or permission of the Department

This course aims to acquaint students with a lively theoretical and critical literature that has developed in parallel, as well as in concert with, drifts in queer liberation over the course of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The course is inflected by dialogues between queer theory

and film studies, feminist theory, art history, fashion, design theory and others. Case studies will include film, video, photography, performance, online video and others. The course seeks to encourage interdisciplinary learning about topics in queer theory and culture in a safe, motivating environment.