

HONORS FORUM COURSES
Spring 2020

AN 346R-001

Material Stuff

4 Credits

S. Silva

W/F 10:10-12:00/Dana 181

An exploration of the importance of material objects in human life and the ways in which cultural anthropologists and other scholars have contributed to the study of materiality, a highly interdisciplinary field of research. In this seminar, drawing on case studies from different times and places, students learn to recognize the importance of material objects in the social world and their own lives. How do objects help people define their identity, structure their lives, remember the past, and facilitate action? What personal and collective stories do objects tell? Do we control the objects around us, or do those objects control us? Among the types of objects studied in this course are sentimental objects, collectibles, memorials, protest art, and technology.

CS 275H.002-006

Computer Science Research

1 Credit

M Eckmann

T. O'Connell

A. Prasad

D. Read

C. Reilly

Time/Location TBA

An introductory exploration of research in computer science. The students, in collaboration with a faculty mentor, will participate in a research project in a particular area of computer science. The research projects may, for example, include designing new algorithms for computational

This course will take us into the land of absurdity, as mapped by fiction writers, filmmakers, poets, essayists, and playwrights. We will venture into regions of dark humor, charged outrage, searing satire, and profound silliness, with the aid of such writers as Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Samuel Beckett, Franz Kafka, and Lewis Carroll and such film directors as Stanley Kubrick, Spike Jonze, and Terry Gilliam. (And don't forget Monty Python.) -- Sinister, ludicrous, surreal, irreverent, these portrayals and explorations will help us to think about and especially, to write about ways that seeming incoherence can be made coherent. We'll reckon with the limits of reason and our terror of uncertainty; we'll discover that an appreciation of paradox can deepen and free our thinking. Our writing practice will emphasize understanding and developing our own writing processes. Students will write frequent short papers—personal, analytical, persuasive, reflective—and three to four substantial essays, submitted first as drafts and then in careful revision. (This course fulfills the all-college requirement in expository writing.)

EN 222W-001

Victorian Illustrated Book

4 Credits

C. Golden

T/Th 11:10-12:30/PMH 301

Victorian Illustrated Book- What was the last book you read with illustrations? Was it a graphic novel, a comic book, or a children's book? All of these types of books have their roots in the Victorian illustrated book. This vibrant genre came into being, flourished, and evolved during the long nineteenth century and finds new expression in our time in the graphic classics, a prescient modern form of material culture that is the heir of the Victorian illustrated book. This Honors, writing-intensive course explores the evolution of the Victorian illustrated book with attention to illustration, critical analysis, and creative practice. Readings will include Charles Dickens's *Pickwick Papers* (1836) and *Oliver Twist* (1838), Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865), and Beatrix Potter's *Peter Rabbit* (1902) series, which demonstrates how the Victorian illustrated book found a new home in children's literature at the fin de siècle. We will also study Victorian graphic classics, a hyper-modern form for twenty-first century readers. Students will engage in curatorial work in the rare book room and put on a library exhibition on an aspect of Victorian literature and culture. In addition to reading and writing frequent papers and designing a brochure to accompany the exhibit, students will become author-illustrators and create their own illustrated texts. Counts as a "Forms of Language and Literature" course.

EN 229H-001

Intro to Medieval Lit

4 Credits

K. Greenspan

T/Th 12:40-2:00/BO 100

From the saintly to the sinful: a sampling of the treasures of medieval English literature, presented in the context of the rich material and intellectual culture of the 12th through the 15th centuries. Our recurring theme, "Visions of Life and Death," will lead us to examine such topics as resurrection and immortality, heaven, hell, and purgatory, penance and pilgrimage, death, relics, and remembrance, ghosts and otherworld journeys. We will read all works in their original dialects, giving enough attention to Middle English grammar and vocabulary to make the readings easily accessible. (Counts as a "Language and Literature in Context" course. Counts towards the Early Period requirement.)

HF 200-001

PLTL for CH 125 Princ of Chemistry

1 Credit

W. Kennerly

Sat/Sun 6:00-8:00/PMH 302

A topical workshop, seminar, discussion group or lab/studio experience sponsored through the Honors Forum. HF 200 may be offered as an optional "honors" credit linked to a regular course offering at the 200 level, or as a freestanding academic experience open to Honors Forum and other highly motivated students.

HF 200-002

PLTL for CH 125 Princ of Chemistry

1 Credit

HF 200-006 Cluster III Truth, Mystery & Getting it Done

1 Credit

A. Ernst

T. Freiermuth

M Estapa

K. Baustian

Th 12:20-2:00/Dana 171

How do you establish your understanding of a subject or a principle when you don't have all the information? What is the point of the scientific enterprise? How do we know what we know, and how do we act when we don't know but still need to get things done? Join us for an all-you-can-eat smorgasbord of intellectual delight addressing these questions. Dishes will include 82.7 (s)- 598 (t)-2.6 (D)6.6 (i)8

