

ARTS 180 Writing the Artist Statement

This workshop style course offers students an extended focus on writing about art, for art majors (though Art History majors are welcome to join in). It will provide hands-on opportunities to view and respond, in verbal and text form, to a wide range of contemporary art on view in the Bay Area. The course will complement senior and MFA level coursework, and serve as preparation for thesis writing, by focusing on art writing style over the course of two semesters. Students will start with a selection of readings including reviews, statements, interviews, exhibition texts, thematic essays. Artists will hone their statements and develop writings that focus on other artworks, influences, and related interests. Class discussions, writing assignments, and workshopping sessions will address means of criticality, research, description, subjectivity, and engaging writing style and how to deploy each in addressing painting, sculpture, installation, film, public art and emerging genres. Students will be primed to write about contemporary art more cogently, and with greater confidence.

This course is offered Fall 2016

Instructor: Glen Helfand

4 credits

DNC 180 Intro to Modern Dance

Course Description

This course is designed as a safe, inviting and fun introduction to basic movement concepts associated with the art form known as modern dance. Students will become comfortable with intelligently and creatively moving their bodies through space, in time with energy. The course deepens one's understanding of the expressive potential of the human body while providing basic strengthening, stretching, coordination and creative skills.

Offered fall 2016

1-3 credits

Education 180: Chicanas/os in Education

This course presents a theoretical and empirical overview of Chicana/o educational issues in the U.S. The course will examine the fundamental theories, concepts, methods, and data used in the multidisciplinary study of Chicana/o education in the U.S. Special emphasis will be placed on utilizing a critical race theoretical analysis and understanding the intersecting effects of race, gender, class, and immigrant status on Chicana and Chicano educational attainment and achievement. The course will also provide a critical understanding of how historical, social, political, economic, and spatial forces impact on the Chicana/o educational experience along the PK-PhD pipeline. Students will examine the relationship between family, school, community, and workplace within a Chicana/o context.

Education 480: Communities, Schools, and Critical Social Theory

This course examines the links between schools and the social structure—the social, economic and political factors that have shaped conditions in urban schools and communities. For instance, *the socioeconomic context of urban schools* provides an important examination of *the role of schooling in a stratified society* and provides the theoretical grounding for the course. Critical Social Theories of race/ethnicity, class, gender, and culture will be utilized as frameworks through which to explore the development and current conditions of urban communities, schools, and society. An emphasis will be placed on examining the connections between social and economic shifts in the inner city and schooling outcomes. The course also explores *the experiences of youth and families living in urban communities*. This course examines, from a critical perspective how urban schools, communities, and society can be reimagined as more humanizing spaces.

This course offered fall 2016.

ENG 180/280: Representing Blackness: Film and Literature in Africa and the Diaspora

This course will examine the changing representations of Africa and the diaspora in film and literature. The class will explore the historical context and ideological motivations behind stereotypical and oppositional portrayals of people of African descent. We will undertake a critical socio-historical review of diverse genres including U.S. "race movies," "blaxploitation," "hood movies," independent African cinema, and contemporary interventions by black feminist and gay filmmakers. Locations include the U.S., the African continent, Europe, and the Caribbean.

Instructor: Ajuan Mance

This course offered fall 2016

4 credits

ENG 180/280 Electronic Literatures

"Literature today not only migrates from print to electronic media; increasingly, "born digital" works are created explicitly for the networked computer... The confrontation with technology at the level of creation is what distinguishes electronic literature from, for example, e-books, digitized versions of print works, and other products of print authors "going digital"...Electronic literature often intersects with conceptual and sound

arts, but reading and writing remain central to the literary arts. These activities, unbound by pages and the printed book, now move freely through galleries, performance spaces, and museums..."

-- ELO: Electronic Literature Organization

"Born Digital" or electronic literature (e-lit) is a rapidly evolving field. New critical methodologies and scholarly approaches to these works are developing alongside such literary artistic practices as: hypertext fiction and poetry; computer art installations; interactive narratives and gaming applications; stories that are generated by computers; code poetry; and collaborative writing projects that allow readers to contribute to the text of a work. In this course we will survey some these forms and read some recent critical theory in order to develop a vocabulary for discussing a range of digital literatures. One of the ways we will develop our understanding of this literature is through exercises that ask us to write/build our own e-lit projects.

Instructor: Rebekah Edwards

This course offered fall 2016

4 credits

ENG 180 Intro to Podcasting

This course will introduce students to the fundamentals of audio storytelling with a strong basis in news reporting. They will learn to use professional audio recording equipment as well as how to incorporate mobile journalism techniques using their cell phones to produce narrative-driven news podcasts. They will cover events on campus as well as stories from the wider Oakland and Bay Area communities, write scripts and edit with

sound software. Their sound stories will be highlighted on the class web site, shared with the campus Campanil site and promoted via social media channels.

Instructor: Meredith May
This course offered fall 2016
4 credits

ENG 180/280 Professional Survival for Writers

The goal of this course is to provide practical information about the life of a working writer—how to build and sustain your writing career. We will discuss many different roads to publishing your poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, and along the way you'll learn more about promoting your work, touring and performing, working with agents and editors, and applying for residencies. We will hear from guest speakers (many of them successful Mills alum) on these topics during class and during a few additional panels on Tuesdays from 5:30-6:30. Everyone will also do a short research project for this class, and you can expect to produce and workshop some combination of the following materials: query letter, artist statement, a CV tailored to residency applications. Some outside reading may be assigned. This class also operates in collaboration with events produced by the Place for Writers, including a chance to practice pitching your work to a literary agent.

Instructor: Stephanie Young
This course is offered fall 2016.
2 credits

GOVT 180: Minorities and Political Agency in the US

Examines how minority groups in the US participate in the political process and achieve political change. Introduces students to the study of social movements, interest groups, and political behavior in American politics.

Instructor: Andrew Flores

This course offered fall 2016

3 credits

MATH 180: Mathematical Modeling

A mathematical model is a description of a real-world system using mathematical concepts and language. This course is an introduction to the basics of mathematical modeling emphasizing model construction, analysis and application. Using examples from a variety of fields such as physics, biology, chemistry, economics, and sociology, students will learn how to develop and use mathematical models of real-world systems.

Offered in fall 2016

4 credits

MGMT 280: Social Responsibility in Business

This course examines the goals, opportunities, challenges, and impacts of socially responsible business, focusing particular attention on efforts to generate positive economic and social impacts on people, communities, and society.

This course offered fall 2016

1 credit

MGMT 280: Environmental Responsibility in Business

This course examines the goals, opportunities, challenges, and impacts of environmentally responsible business, focusing particular attention on efforts to generate positive economic and environmental impacts on ecosystems, communities, and society.

This course offered fall 2016

1 credit

MGMT 280: Investing for Impact

This course examines innovations, trends, metrics, and challenges for investors and investment managers who seek to invest funds for social and environmental impact as well as financial returns.

This course offered fall 2016

1 credit

PE 80 U-Jam Fitness

U-Jam Fitness is an athletic dance fitness workout that combines dance and high energy music for a workout that is bound to get your heart rate up while having fun! U-Jam is designed to be easy-to-follow for all fitness levels, and to have students leave each session smiling, dripping with sweat, and feeling like part of a community. U-Jam music utilizes the hottest beats from around the world.

Instructor: Amy Lee

This course offered fall 2016
1 credit

PE 80B Healthy Eating

This hands-on whole foods preparation course provides students with nutrition strategies for optimal health. Along with sharing the food made during each class, students will explore the relationship between food and physiology, develop basic culinary skills, and learn useful wellness information.

Instructor: Amy Brown

This course offered fall 2016
1 credit

PE 80C Farming and Food Justice

Students will get their hands in the soil; develop skills of self-sufficiency, community reliance, and embodiment through the practice of growing food. Students will learn to seed, transplant, harvest, and care for the land. Films, field trips and guest lectures will connect our work to the greater food justice movement as we consider how growing food and feeding ourselves and our community is an act of self-determination that bridges the political, personal, and spiritual spheres.

Instructor: Alisha Strater

This course offered fall 2016
1 credit

PPOL 180/280: Special Topics: Housing Policy

Today in the Bay Area, policymakers are grappling with issues of affordable housing, gentrification, displacement, homelessness, and race and wealth inequality. Today, Oakland and its neighboring communities must make critical and defining decisions on housing supply and housing preservation. Questions of housing and credit availability, resident mobility, and inclusion and exclusion will permeate our study of the history of federal housing policy and the housing financial system, along with the housing opportunities governments typically support.

The class will introduce students to the policy and financial tools local governments can use to increase the supply of affordable housing while also aiding in the preservation and rehabilitation of existing housing. We'll explore the tension inherent in regulating new market development—for example, through inclusionary zoning and impact fees. Our deep exploration of housing policy will include homeownership, rental housing, homelessness and local housing innovations. We will discuss the cadre of nonprofit organizations that have played a significant role in developing and managing housing—especially in California—over the past 25 years. Finally, we'll learn about the nation's system of credit, and a new federal agency created to protect homebuyers in the wake of the recent housing and financial crisis.

Our goal: to understand the complexity in federal and local housing policy, confront the tradeoffs inherent in local decisions, and build a personal arsenal of housing policy tools for use in any local community.

This course is offered fall 2016.

4 credits

PSYC 180 The Psychology of Gender

This course will introduce you to the historical and current theory on gender and sex from a psychological perspective. We will learn how and why social expectations, standards, and opportunities tend to be systematically related to gender. Emphasis will be placed on critical theories and the intersectionality of gender, sex, race, and sexual orientation to explore the wide diversity of these identities and experiences.

Instructor: Brandon Valentine

This course is offered fall 2016.

3 credits

SOC 180: Shatter the Semester: Introduction to Design Thinking in Higher Education
(<https://youtu.be/dsHEdma9m84>)

Why is American higher education in 2016 so similar to what it was 10, 20, or even 50 years ago? If Steve Jobs was right when he said “It’s technology married with liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields us the results that make our heart sing,” why do we see so little innovation in places where liberal arts has the home field advantage? Why do faculties, administrations, and students take too long to change too little? Why is so much of the "new" just a digital form of the old?

This course aims to challenge that status quo. It is an introduction to design thinking with a focus on innovation in higher education. By innovation we mean creative solutions to important problems and the translation of ideas into value. The course will teach design thinking as a discipline, human centered design as a mindset, and innovation as an ethos along with substantive background in the history of innovative education and the sociology of innovation.

In the course you will develop your capacity to identify important problems and to work effectively in a design team. You will learn to cultivate empathy and use anthropological techniques to research user needs. We will attempt to inspire your creativity and help you be the kind of person who can inspire creativity in others. You will learn a range rapid low resolution prototyping techniques and value of deploying them iteratively.

This course is for students with a diverse range of strengths and aspirations; visual artists, social scientists, rabble rousers, entrepreneurs, policy innovators, coders, future teachers, budding business persons, hell-raisers, creative writers, and laboratory scientists. Our goal is simple: to motivate and equip you to be an education innovator, the kind of person who looks at higher education as currently practiced, thinks "why not?" and then makes it happen.

Instructor: Dan Ryan

This course is offered fall 2016.

4 credits