

# **Summer 2016**

## **IDC Course Descriptions**

### **Summer Session I (three weeks: 5/09/16 through 5/26/16)**

#### **IDC 200 01: *Homelessness and Our Nation's Health***

**Chelsey Franz**

**MTWTh 8:30 am – 11:30 am**

**Course Description:** *This course explores emerging trends and issues in homelessness from a social determinants of health perspective with a focus on interventions designed to improve community, family and individual health outcomes. Relevant research will be examined and discussed to understand the incidence and prevalence of various chronic and acute issues, recognize risk factors, explore the cultural and socioeconomic impact of such issues, and identify the strengths and weaknesses of current preventative and intervention strategies. Visits to local programs designed to alleviate homelessness in Louisville will provide students with firsthand knowledge and accounts of the various issues faced by this population.*

#### **IDC 200 02: *Film Noir***

**Cathy Sutton**

**MTWTh 11:45 am – 2:45 pm**

**Course Description:** *Beginning in the early 1940's, as America's participation in World War II looked inevitable, a new type of crime film developed. Later named "Film Noir" by French critics, everyone now recognizes that these films represented something new—something darker, more cynical, more morally ambiguous than previous crime movies. We will focus on the screenwriters, directors, actors, and film techniques related to lighting, and the innovative use of the camera in these films. In addition, we will study the various definitions of masculinity and femininity that the genre presents. Film Noir provided audiences with a new and distinctively American response to the cultural and social upheavals that World War II entailed. In keeping with the requirements of the IDC program, each student will research some aspect of the Film Noir tradition. This ten-page essay will comprise the major work of the three-week term. In addition to watching at least one film for each class, students will also write on certain focused questions on each film during class time. All films required for the class will be on reserve in the library; many of them are also available on YouTube.*

*If you have questions about anything related to this class, please contact me at [csutton@bellarmine.edu](mailto:csutton@bellarmine.edu).*

#### **IDC 301 01: *Poetry of Witness***

**Fred Smock**

**MTWTh 8:30 am – 11:30 am**

**Course Description:** *"Poetry of Witness" looks at poems generated by the great upheavals of the 20th century -- the world wars, the Holocaust, repression in Eastern Europe and Latin America, and more. This is poetry as historical documents, bearing witness to tragedy, so that the events cannot be denied, and so that they might be understood and never repeated.*

## **IDC 301 02: *The Nuclear Age***

**Pat Holt**

**MTWTh 11:45 am – 2:45 pm**

**Course Description:** *The word nuclear summons many emotions (and pronunciations—"nuclear," for example) -- fear, confusion, anger, to name just a few. It induces such passion that the use of this term is avoided whenever possible. For example, consider MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) scanners, a widely used medical diagnostic tool. These instruments are based on a phenomena known by scientists as nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR spectrometers have been used for decades to discern molecular structures). When the medical community began to use these instruments for imaging, the term nuclear was removed because of the negative connotations associated with it. Why does this term evoke such an intense response?*

*In this course, we will explore the science, history, and politics of nuclear technology. Are there any benefits to nuclear technology? Or does every aspect of nuclear phenomena impact us and our planet negatively? How were nuclear weapons developed? Is it feasible to design a reliable defense against nuclear weapons? What are the benefits and drawbacks of nuclear energy? Could the widespread use of nuclear energy eliminate some of our current energy problems? And what of climate change? Could nuclear energy be part of the solution?*

*As a citizen, you will, no doubt, be faced with many choices regarding nuclear technology. It is your responsibility to make an intelligent choice, but how will you know what the appropriate response should be? This course aims to provide you with a background necessary to make educated decisions or to do the research necessary to make the choice of an educated citizen.*

## **IDC 301 05: *Food, People, and Places: Sustainability in Peru*** *(cross-listed with ANTH 241-01 and ENVS 440-01)*

**David Domine and Jay Gatrell**

**MW 9:00 am – 11:45 am** (This course is on campus from 5/9/2016 through 5/19/2016 and then in Peru from 5/20/16 through 6/3/16. The cost of the trip is extra. Acceptance into the Peru program is required in order to enroll. Contact the International programs office for more information.)

**Course Description:** *The course investigates global sustainability in place as it relates to agriculture and the local dynamics of food. Students will observe and participate in community based learning experiences organized around sustainable agriculture—as well as gain a greater understanding of the consequences of rural-to-urban migration, rapid land use change, and urbanization in a developing country--Peru. Additionally, the course explores the nexus between local people, everyday food, and the distinctive cuisine of the region.*

## **IDC 301 06: *World Christianity – International Experience*** *(cross-listed with IDC. 401-04 and THEO 422-01)*

**Ned Berghausen**

**MW 3:45 pm – 6:30 pm** (This course is on campus from 5/9/2016 through 5/19/2016 and then in Peru from 5/20/16 through 6/3/16. The cost of the trip is extra. Acceptance into the Peru program is required in order to enroll. Contact the International programs office for more information.)

**Course Description:** *The religious landscape of Peru is a fascinating fusion of indigenous religions from the Andes and Amazon, Catholicism from Spain, and West African practices. In this course, students will explore the patterns of invasion, resistance, accommodation and adaptation of religious*

practices that began with the 17<sup>th</sup> century encounter between these cultures. These themes will be approached, in part, through the lenses of Catholic Social Teaching and Liberation Theology, particularly the role of religion in resisting injustice. The first two weeks of this course will be spent on campus, where these topics will be explored through a series of lectures and discussions. The final two weeks of the term will be spent in Peru, where the instructor and students will take part in additional coursework, service work and field studies in the Sacred Valley, the Altiplano and a series of islands in Lake Titicaca.

## **IDC 401 01: Senior Seminar – Thomas Merton & Social Justice**

### **Greg Hillis**

**MTWTh 8:30 am – 11:30 am**

**Course Description:** *Thomas Merton, a monk at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky, was an influential figure in 20th-century American Christian history, and is of immense importance to Bellarmine University. In this course, we will look at Merton's writings on issues of social justice, writings that continue to have a world-wide influence. We will explore particularly his writings on war and peace, race, and inter-religious dialogue. The course will involve field trips to the Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University, to the famous corner of 4th & Walnut in downtown Louisville, as well as to the Abbey of Gethsemani to speak to monks who knew Merton.*

## **IDC 401 02: Water & Society**

**Martha Mazur**

**MTWTh 11:45 am - 2:45 pm**

**\$25 Course Fee**

**Course Description:** *Water is essential to life and often taken for granted, despite growing environmental pressures that have reduced availability and degraded water quality. Mounting costs to produce clean, safe drinking water in the developed world are juxtaposed with a life-or-death search for drinkable water in less developed regions. As conflicts over water continue to arise across the globe, from Atlanta to Dubai, a new collective water ethic is needed. Through discussions, field trips, guest lectures, and current events, this interdisciplinary course will examine the sustainability of water and our social responsibility with regard to how we view and treat our water resources. We will discuss disparities in access to clean water in the context of evaluating whether or not this basic need is a human right. Integrating these social justice issues with the science, history, economics, and environmental policy surrounding the topic, students will develop a framework for sustainable management of our water that will serve society now and into the future.*

**\$25 course fee covers cost of several field trips.**

## **IDC 401 03: Death and the Corpse**

**Amy Tudor**

**MTWTh 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

**Course Description:** *In this course, students will use interdisciplinary study in such disciplines as history, anthropology, photography, anatomy, theology, and architecture to explore the changing cultural meanings of death and the human corpse. Students will first be introduced to the concept of liminality and how this state creates our sacred and taboo cultural meanings surrounding death and human bodies. Students will then explore this issue in such artifacts as the memorials, historical and contemporary anatomical drawings, historical texts on war and funerary practices, and visual representations such as paintings and films that feature human bodies. Contemporary theological and political issues surrounding death and the human body—including the Right to Die controversy and the public display of Iraq and Afghanistan war dead—will also be explored, both in class and in the form of student research.*

**IDC 401 06: World Christianity – International Experience**  
(cross-listed with IDC. 301-06 and THEO 422-01)

**Ned Berghausen**

**MW 3:45 pm – 6:30 pm** (This course is on campus from 5/9/2016 through 5/19/2016 and then in Peru from 5/20/16 through 6/3/16. The cost of the trip is extra. Acceptance into the Peru program is required in order to enroll. Contact the International programs office for more information.)

**Course Description:** *The religious landscape of Peru is a fascinating fusion of indigenous religions from the Andes and Amazon, Catholicism from Spain, and West African practices. In this course, students will explore the patterns of invasion, resistance, accommodation and adaptation of religious practices that began with the 17<sup>th</sup> century encounter between these cultures. These themes will be approached, in part, through the lenses of Catholic Social Teaching and Liberation Theology, particularly the role of religion in resisting injustice. The first two weeks of this course will be spent on campus, where these topics will be explored through a series of lectures and discussions. The final two weeks of the term will be spent in Peru, where the instructor and students will take part in additional coursework, service work and field studies in the Sacred Valley, the Altiplano and a series of islands in Lake Titicaca.*

**IDC 401 07: Ethnic Health Equality in Australia**

**Andrew Carnes**

**This course is in Australia from 5/6/16 through 5/22/16 and then on campus 5/26/16, 5/31/16 and 6/06/16 (9:00 am – 12:00 pm). The cost of the trip is extra. Instructor permission is required.**

**Course Description:** *This course will focus on the oppression of the Indigenous Australian population throughout history and the significant disparities in health, income, and education that Australian Aborigines face today. Students will investigate these disparities in relation to Indigenous Australians' access to healthcare and values surrounding health behaviors, relative to those of the predominant Anglo-Australian population. The role of racism and other sociocultural and economic barriers will also be discussed. Students will integrate their findings with a critical assessment of the social responsibility of those in power to lead positive change and address Aborigines' plight of inequity.*

**Summer Session II (five weeks: 5/31/16 through 6/30/16)**

**IDC 200 03: Jazz, Blues, and Beyond**

**Dave Clark**

**TWTh 9:00 am – 11:30 am**

**Course Description:** *The African-American Spiritual holds an important and often overlooked place in the development of American music. The Spiritual in essence is the seed of African-American musical genres. Exploring the spirituals reveals many aspects about the development of these musical genres, particularly blues, jazz, soul, and R&B. However, the lessons gained from the Spirituals in terms of commentary on the state of humanity are just as, if not more important than the musical ones. The African-American Spiritual teaches profound lessons in its musical, social, religious, political, and cultural revelations. These revelations are traced to other genres such as blues, jazz, gospel, soul, and avant-garde among others. The characteristics of the genres are studied as to how they reflect and communicate the political, philosophical, social, and overall cultural beliefs of the people who created it.*

*The notion that music is principally to be “enjoyed” is characteristic of Western culture, and much of the music we discuss has purposes far beyond enjoyment. It is music of great significance in understanding the state of humanity. This course will help you understand music as a cultural phenomenon, gain an appreciation for the African-American Spiritual and its progeny, and hopefully stimulate you to further investigate some aspect of music that you currently listen to.*

*After carefully exploring the musical, cultural, religious, political, and social aspects of the Spiritual, we then begin to ask questions of our other musical genres. Upon evaluating our musical practices today, would our African-American ancestors be encouraged by what they heard? Would they be able to hear commentary on the human condition, perseverance of the human spirit, and an understanding of human kinship? These questions and many others are explored through readings, musical recordings, film and spirited discussion.*

## **IDC 301 03: Native American Culture and Literature**

**Kathy West**

**TWTh 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm**

**Course Description:** *Our course this session will focus on Native American and First Nations Cultures (North and South American), looking particularly at Literature by Native Americans, the depiction of American Indians in film, and the history and anthropology of Native American Cultures. We will explore recent scholarship that provides a very different picture of ancient Native American History and Culture from what was believed for centuries; we’ll look at the late-nineteenth century end of the Indian Wars, the push for reservations, and the allotment system; and we will explore issues facing contemporary Native American peoples, on and off reservations. In terms of literature, we’ll read in ancient and traditional stories, myths, and songs; examine a sampling of what was recorded of American Indian composition from the arrival of the Europeans through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century; and spend some time on writings from the contemporary Native American Literary Renaissance. We’ll engage stories, songs, myths, poems, essays, memoirs, films, novels, history, and anthropology. We will pay particular attention to **storytelling** (the oral tradition as it works its way into the written; how narration creates, organizes, even manipulates understanding); **identity** (as fluid and organic; as simultaneously individual and communal; how race, gender, class, sexual orientation, and other factors both intersect and collide to create a sense of identity); **difference and conflict** through the clashes of cultures on this continent.*

## **IDC 301 07: Environmental Sustainability in Costa Rica**

**(cross-listed with ENVS 440-02)**

**Kristin Cook**

**This course is off-campus in Costa Rica from 6/5/16 through 6/26/16. The estimated cost of the trip is \$2500. A passport is required. Permission of the instructor is required**

**Course Description:** *In this course, students will study the factors shaping Costa Rica’s leadership in sustainability by examining the historical, environmental, and political aspects that influence the country. This exploration encompasses diverse means of human livelihood, socioeconomics, and conservation initiatives in varied ecosystems- from coastal ecology to rugged mountain terrain to coffee farms. By completing micro- and macro-field studies, students will work with community members and/or organizations to deeply understand the unique place of Costa Rica. Student research will focus on examining the impacts of development on the environment and on society by understanding key historical and current aspects of sustainable development strategies and policies in Costa Rica, coupled with knowledge of tropical ecosystem function and connectivity. Instructional methodologies will specifically be determined by the individual needs of each student enrolled in the course. However, the*

course is designed to privilege individual interests, inquiry-based research, relevant hands-on applications, cooperative work, critical thinking, and group discussion.

### **IDC 401 04: Senior Seminar: the Just Citizen**

**Gail Henson**

**TWTh 9:00 am – 11:30 am**

**Course Description:** *The Senior Seminar is the capstone experience in the general education of a Bellarmine student. It has as its primary focus the development of students' abilities to examine contemporary issues in a comprehensive and integrated way within a Catholic social justice perspective and a liberal arts and sciences context. Seniors from various disciplines come together in small groups with a faculty member to reflect on critical issues facing contemporary society, such as racism, economic and social justice, environmental concerns, national and international crises, and ethical issues arising from developments in science, medicine and technology. Students are also expected to bring the knowledge and skills gained in their major field of study and their other general education courses to the seminar as appropriate.*

### **Summer Session III (five weeks: 7/05/16 through 8/04/16)**

### **IDC 200 04: The American Family in Sitcoms**

**Katie Wagner**

**TWTh 9:00 am – 11:30 am**

**Course Description:** *Scholars of American culture and TV argue that sitcoms aren't just a relaxing break from reality, but rather mirrors of their times and projections of desired fantasies. In this seminar, students will watch and analyze specific episodes of American sitcoms that feature, at their core, a family unit. Starting with sitcoms from the 1950s and proceeding to sitcoms currently on-the-air, this course will explore how various series construct and define, through narrative, form, and visual presentation, the American family, and by extension, the American dream. Students in this course will examine how sitcoms from **Leave It to Beaver** to **The New Normal** act as cultural barometers as each series addresses and often re-situates issues of gender, culture, ethnicity, race, stereotypes, and socio-economic status. In addition to watching specific episodes of various sitcoms, students will engage with a variety of critical theory that situates sitcoms historically and culturally, addresses evolutions in the sitcom canon, and critically reads specific series. Coursework will include writing a formal research paper according to MLA formatting, leading a discussion on a specific sitcom episode, and completing a creative project. In addition to completing the readings on their own, students will be expected to screen all sitcom episodes outside of class.*

### **IDC 301 04: Fandom and Geek Culture**

**Renee Culver**

**TWTh 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm**

**Course Description:** *In recent years the stigma of the "nerdy" fan has given way to a culture where comic book superheroes reign at the box office and even the president proudly calls himself a "geek." In this course we'll explore the world of fandom through an interdisciplinary lens, using cultural studies, media studies, psychology, sociology, anthropology, and other disciplines to shed light on the world of fans. Students will read some of the seminal theorists on fan studies and explore the way in which fans are meaning-makers--writing, creating, blogging, and forming communities and hierarchies that redefine geographic boundaries.*



## **IDC 401 05: Senior Seminar**

**Josh Golding**

**TWTh 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm**

**Course Description:** *The Senior Seminar is the capstone experience in the general education of a Bellarmine student. It has as its primary focus the development of students' abilities to examine contemporary issues in a comprehensive and integrated way within a Catholic social justice perspective and a liberal arts and sciences context. Seniors from various disciplines come together in small groups with a faculty member to reflect on critical issues facing contemporary society, such as racism, economic and social justice, environmental concerns, national and international crises, and ethical issues arising from developments in science, medicine and technology. Students are also expected to bring the knowledge and skills gained in their major field of study and their other general education courses to the seminar as appropriate.*

**Summer Session IV (seven weeks: 6/16/16 through 8/05/16)**

## **IDC 301 ON: Health in Global Cinema**

**Katie Wagner**

**Online course for RN students only**

**Course Description:** *Health. Contained within this deceptively simple, six-letter word is a world of meanings, interpretations, and topics. How do we define such a concept that is so complex and yet so ubiquitous to our understandings of life, death, identity, and culture? This online course encourages students to question the ways that differing cultural representations shape our understandings of health, in all of its facets. Looking specifically at cinema from outside of the U.S., this class explores a range of cinematic portrayals in an effort to see how these depictions mirror, challenge, and engage with each other. Throughout the term, students will search for how the assigned films provide meaning not only as cultural artifacts but also through their unique narratives and visual elements. Required films—to be screened independently by the students—will cover a wide-range of health-related topics including death, mental illness, healthcare systems, images of caretakers and patients, and the “necessary requirements” needed to promote and produce a healthy existence. Possible films may include *Ikiru* (1952), *The National Health* (1973), *Shine* (1996), *Talk to Her* (2002), *Motorcycle Diaries* (2004), and *Yesterday* (2004). Coursework will include active participation in weekly online discussions and a number of informal assignments as well as formal projects, including a formal research paper driven by an argumentative thesis statement and supported by scholarly and other critical sources.*